

Paul Schullery
P.O. Box 189
Yellowstone Park, WY 82190



Bud Cilly
2007 Sourdough Road
Bozeman, MT 59715

6125

Boxfield

ct

Windermere, FL

34986

407-876

2511

Paul Schullery
P.O. Box 184
Yellowstone Park, WY 82190
1-307-344-7720
fax 1-307-344-7374
pschullery@gomontana.com

April 9, 2001

Bud:

I would just call you with this, but I want to make sure I get all the stuff down correctly in one place.

You may recall that the first time Leon came out and stayed at the hotel, he was excited about this idea he had. He wants to get together some of fly fishing's most important "old farts" to sit around and swap tales about each other and about the other prominent figures in fly fishing that they knew. Well, he's gone ahead with that idea. He wants to do it with the museum in Vermont being kind of the sponsor or organizer. He's raising (mostly donating, I think) some money to pay for not only taping but filming it.

Here's the plan he has. He would like to get a group of people together the day before the Fly Tackle Dealer Show in Salt Lake City. He has persuaded me to come and be moderator. He is inviting Jim Green, Lefty, Stu Apte, Leon Chandler, Dave Whitlock, and you. Actually, I am inviting you on his behalf. Gary Tanner may come too.

The date of this insurrection would be September 5, all day long, which is the day before the show starts. Leon is looking into seeing if he can get us a break at whatever hotel the show is at.

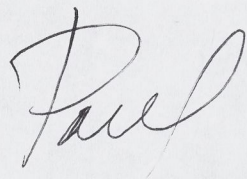
I assume I'm going. Leon really wants me there, though I think he over-rates how useful I'll be. Because he says that I still "work for a living," he is threatening to cover some of my expenses. I appreciate this, but I feel a little uncomfortable being the only person who is getting reimbursed.

That's all I know, so I'm letting you know. Now we both know. You can tell me if this is something you would be interested in doing, or would be free to do, and I'll let Leon know.

Or just give him a call and talk it over with him. Whatever suits.

I really miss not seeing you guys. This winter has been really rough for us, and now I'm just swamped with book deadlines. I sure hope to hell it eases up in May.

By the way, aren't you really impressed with the fast action I got out of Frank Amato's people on sending us our checks? I can almost imagine mine will be arriving one of these days.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the page, below the main body of text.

Paul Schullery
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Yellowstone Park, WY 82190
1-307-344-7720
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pschullery@gomontana.com

Bud -
This should
help.
Paul

December 5, 1999

Kim Coch
Frank Amato Publications
P.O. Box 82112
Portland, OR 97282

Dear Kim:

I think we've only spoken once or twice so far during the production of *Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the New West*, but I understand that you are the person we should communicate with about the next stage. There are several details that I think it's probably time to work on.

First, according to the contract, the authors get 10 copies of the hardbound book. There are two authors, so I'm hoping we get 10 copies each. Is that right?

The contract also says that we can get a 50% discount on copies we buy for ourselves. I'm curious to know if we order some copies that way, can charge them against royalties? Not a big deal to us either way, but I thought I'd ask. Some publishers differ on that so I don't know what your policy is.

Then, I don't know what your approach to review copies and complimentary copies is. Let me make some suggestions about complimentary copies first.

I am assuming that you probably provide copies to people who write jacket blurbs. If it's okay with you, we would be happy to inscribe copies to the three people who wrote jacket blurbs: Tom Brokaw, Lefty Kreh, and Gary Tanner (Arnold Gingrich died about 25 years ago). We would be happy to then send the books on to them, but we will also need addresses for Tom and Lefty. Can these three be hardbound copies? It especially seems inappropriate somehow to send Tom Brokaw the paperback.

I have the impression that you are also willing to provide copies of the book for the people who tied the flies that are illustrated on the color plates. There are two of these people, and again we would like to inscribe the book and send it on to each of them.

Then, there was one person who gave us quite a few of the photographs we used, Dave Kumlein,

and we need to give him a copy in appreciation. Again, I hope you could provide us with a copy for this purpose.

So that means we would need six copies: three for the blurbers, two for the fly tiers, and one for a photographer.

There are two other people who we think merit a special complimentary copy, former President Carter and Montana Governor Marc Racicot. They are listed on a separate page.

Now as far as review copies, I assume that you folks have much better lists than we do with the addresses of all the relevant fishing magazines and the best outdoor editors at newspapers. But we can make some suggestions of some really valuable reviewers in our region. I will include that list with this letter. There's nobody on this list that isn't an excellent candidate for a published review; there is no "padding" in the list.

I also include a list of regional sales outlets. This does not include all the region's fly shops; it's just the actual bookstores. If you do some kind of mailing, say of a press release or other promotional mailing, these should all receive it.

If you include a press release with the books, it seems to us that it could emphasize a couple of things that are worth headlines. I enclose some possible paragraphs that might be useful. I think that there are three areas in which this book makes an important contribution:

1. It's a great story of a life in nature. With its historical sensibility and all the episodes from Montana history, it's genuine Americana, and it's lively and entertaining.
2. It's rich in advice and guidance for fishermen; it's the product of lifetime of experience and observation on the stream. Actually, it's extraordinary for this kind of instruction.
3. It provides a kind of creed, or ethic, for how we can keep our fishing good. It's very forward-looking, and offers some thoughtful observations on what's going on with fishing in the west today, which makes it important in "current events."

I know that the foremost thing that will sell books is all the good advice, and the great stories. But I think that a lot of reviewers are going to be looking for some "hook" that will let them make this book into a story. Bud's views on future management aren't just a story: they're news. If the press release can emphasize his forward-looking proposals along with all his good fishing advice, I think it will help get the book mentioned in print a lot more.

Well, that's more than enough for one letter. Please let me know if you have any questions. If you need to speak with Bud directly, I'm sure his number and address are there, but here they are again: 1-406-586-5140, 2007 Sourdough Road, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Thanks a lot. We're really excited about the book, and we are looking forward to seeing it.

Sincerely,

Paul Schullery

cc. Bud Lilly

Review copy list

Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the New West

Great Falls Tribune

attn. Book editor
205 River Drive
Great Falls, MT 59405

Helena Independent Record

Scott Thompson, outdoor editor
317 Cruse Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Bozeman Chronicle

attn. Books/Outdoor editor
2820 West College
Bozeman, MT 59715

Mike Dry

Wild Trout Journal

Suite 324
1627 West Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Brent Frazee

Kansas City Star

1729 Grand Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64108

Mark Henckel

Outdoor editor

The Billings Gazette
401 North Broadway
Billings, MT 59101-6300

The Missoulian

att. Book editor/Daryl Gadbow
P.O. Box 8029
Missoula, MT 59807

Montana Magazine

P.O. Box 5630
Helena, MT 59604

Montana Outdoors

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

1420 East Sixth Avenue

Helena, MT 59620

Outdoors Editor

Denver Post

P.O. Box 1709

Denver, CO 80201

Book Review Editor

Montana, the Magazine of Western History

Montana Historical Society

225 North Roberts Street

Helena, MT 59620

Ruth Rudner

311 South Willson

Bozeman, MT 59715

(writes for the *Wall Street Journal* about nature/environmental issues)

Angus Thuermer

Jackson Hole News

P.O. Box 7445

Jackson, WY 83001

Todd Wilkinson

P.O. Box 422

Bozeman, MT 59771

(writes for the *Denver Post* and other regional newspapers and national magazines)

Ted Williams

50 North Street

Grafton, MA 01519

(writes for *Fly Rod & Reel*, *Audubon*, *Gray's Sporting Journal*, special interest in the region)

Jackie Yamanaka

Yellowstone Public Radio

1500 North 30th Street

Billings, MT 59101

Shelli Johnson
Yellowstone Journal
P.O. Box 1099
Lander, WY 82529-1099

Yellowstone Times
P.O. Box 75
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Special complimentary copies

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
The Carter Center
1 Copenhill
453 Freedom Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30307

The Honorable Marc Racicot, Governor
Capitol Building
Helena, MT 59602

Regional bookstores and other outlets

B. Dalton
Ron Williams, Manager
Main Mall
2825 West Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Barjon Books
2516 First Avenue
Billings, MT 59101

Book Peddler
106 Canyon
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Books Etc.
106 S. Main Street
Livingston, MT 59047

Bookworm
14 Canyon
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Gift Shop
Buffalo Bill Historical Center
P.O. Box 2630
Cody, WY 82414

Country Bookshelf
28 West Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Glacier Natural History Association
West Glacier, MT

Glenbow Museum Gift Shop
130 9th Avenue S.E.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2G 0P3

Grand Teton Natural History Association
Drawer 170-B

Moose, WY 83012

Gift Shop
Livingston Depot Center
P.O. Box 1319
Livingston, MT 59047

Montana State University Bookstore
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59715

Gift Shop
Museum of the Rockies
600 East Kagy Boulevard
Bozeman, MT 59715

Museum of the Yellowstone
124 Yellowstone Avenue
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Northern Lights Trading Company
1627 West Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Phillips Book & Office Supply Store
111 East Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Sax & Fryer Co., Books
109 W. Callender
Livingston, MT 59047

Teton Bookshop
25 South Glenwood
Jackson, WY 83001

Valley Bookstore
125 North Cache
Jackson, WY 83001

Vargo's Jazz City & Books
1 East Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Yellowstone Gallery
P.O. Box 472
Gardiner, MT 59030

Yellowstone Association
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Potential paragraphs for promotion or press release

(all quotes are from the book)

possible leads:

Bud Lilly's new book is a guide both to fishing and to caring for the West

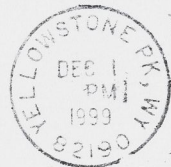
Bud Lilly's "Guide" shows the way to the future for western fishing

Bud Lilly's new "Guide" counsels sportsmanship, conservation as keys to great fishing

Having watched western fishing for 70 years, Lilly champions caring for the fishery resources even if we must reduce our individual angling: "We've proven that in some places we can actually manage the trout population well enough that even with extremely heavy fishing pressure there are still lots of trout. But we haven't proven that we have the wisdom to ask ourselves if that's really the kind of fishing experience we want" (page 140). How does he suggest we protect the fishing experience? By spreading the use around, and by establishing caps on how many anglers are on hard-fished waters at once: "I propose we consider placing a maximum limit on the number of fishermen. . . " on rivers like the Madison. "As wonderful as catch-and-release has been, we can still be loving these rivers to death" (page 140).

Bud Lilly has watched his western rivers through 70 years of change in angling techniques and fisherman's attitudes. He has never stopped looking toward the future, for ways to ensure the survival of these great fisheries for future generations of anglers, and he has never stopped fighting for their protection. He has watched the arrival of whirling disease, the departure of hatcheries, and all the other developments that have shaped modern western angling, and he has played a key role in many conservation initiatives. "The West's fishing is a great gift, and the price we pay for it is vigilance, staying informed, and keeping our eyes open."

Paul Schullery
P.O. Box 184
Yellowstone Park, WY 82190



Bad Cilly
2007 Sourdough Road
Bozeman, MT 59715

1/408

29/2 891 29/2

Coltson

580-

0254

Dorothy

Bud:

I hope this isn't too long a paragraph. If you needed to, you could leave out Gary's quote and save a few lines. But the quotes from Tom and Lefty are too good to pass up.

Announcing Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the New West

There's a lot of talk about the "New West" these days. It's still the same landscape we all love, but socially and economically it really is a different world than the one I grew up in. More and more people are finding ways to balance traditional industries like ranching and logging with new ones that depend on nature in different ways, like fly fishing, wildlife watching, and skiing. I decided to call my new book a "guide to fly fishing the new west" because so much of today's fishing experience is affected by these changes. As with my earlier books, I've teamed up with Paul Schullery to write this much larger book, and we're very excited about it. If you missed the earlier ones, you'll be glad to know that this one contains everything that was in them plus a lot more. The book is scheduled to come out in January, and it is already getting some wonderful advance attention. NBC anchorman Tom Brokaw, an avid fly fisherman, writes that "Bud Lilly is a founding father of modern western trout fishing—and his book is an invaluable guide." Lefty Kreh says that "this is a must-read book for anyone who enjoys the great trout waters of the western U.S." Gary Tanner, director of the American Museum of Fly Fishing, says "it is a delightful read, and most importantly, infuses "how-to" with a conservation ethic and a sense of history." And here is how Frank Amato, the publisher, is describing it: "*Bud Lilly's Guide* distills a lifetime of western lore and wisdom about western waters. Packed with practical, hard-earned advice, and spiced with countless tales of great fishing, the *Guide* is an indispensable introduction for the newcomer and a source of surprising new ideas even for the old hand." Well, with all these people saying such nice things, I don't have to do a lot of bragging about it myself. I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

Cal Dunbar
Box 368
West Yellowstone MT
59758-0368

8 December 1999

Bud Lilly, Bozeman MT

Dear Bud:

Here is the dope on Japanese flyfishing contacts:

The most recent contact I have had is with Shuichi Akimaru who was just over here last September plus I talk with him on the phone. He is the Fukuoka rodmaker who was the great friend of Ashizawa. I think it best you start here. Aki understands a great deal of English although we speak Japanese because he feels more comfortable with it. He is wired in Japan and is their foremost authority on yamame (their landlocked salmon which is like a golden trout in size and coloration in most of their streams for which they flyfish. He has pix in the Livingston IFFC).

Shuichi Akimaru (Name is in English order: Shuichi is his first name, Akimaru his surname. The Japanese say the surname first. Mr. Akimaru).

Shuichi Akimaru
AKIMARU FISHING TACKLE MAKER
2-20-32-2 Chikushigaoka, Minami-ku
Fukuoka, 815 Japan

Seiji Sato
3-2-9 Honmachi, Maeba-shi
Gunma, 371 Japan

Takashi Watanabe
34-19 Daita, 5-Chome, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo, 155 Japan

Mrs. Kazuhiro Ashizawa (Sachiko)
3-3-19 Daita, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo, 155 Japan

Motoo Tarumi
2-67-8 Ishihara-cho, Kawagoe-shi
Saitama-ken, Japan

I am sure that Paul has a roster of the Japanese flyfishing magazine offices where you can simply make direct contact with the editor but I think your best bets are Akimaru and Mrs. Ashizawa.

Sato is an author of repute who comes here regularly. He will know you. He should be a good source. I think I saw him this year. He can handle English.

Watanabe is the rather short statured fellow, friend of Ashi's, who used to stay all summer at the former Big Chief Motel which McLaughlin converted to storage units a couple of years ago. He has written books and made videos. I haven't seen him for several years but he was around for years in season. I think he was under scrutiny finally by Dave Etzweiler for gyppo guiding of Japanese and he bugged out. He was everywhere a few years ago. He was very evident the years he was here so he knows you and West and may be a good source of info anyway.

Tarumi is primarily a tourist operator but he has led flyfishermen here several times in years past and contacted me at the house. Very friendly. He may help you. This is not a late address but I don't

know where to reach him otherwise. These guys keep changing their operation and their address.

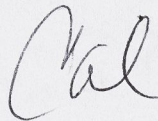
Mrs. Ashizawa I think is a prime contact. Even if she is not in the business she has excellent English, knows us all, has been here several times and should respond to you. She and Aki are your best bet. Be sure to tell them I sicced you on them.

Hope this all does you some good. Since Ashi died Aki has been my principal contact as the IFFC is now in Livingston and they don't seem to haunt me as much.

If I can help you futher let me know.

Best for the holidays,

Cal



ps:

A second thought: I would be glad to phone Aki directly to ask him how to proceed if you like. Just say the word. I could rap with him in Japanese. It might be easier and more effective. Ask Paul. This might be the ticket, on further reflection. I will be in CA from 12/15 until 12/22 but here thereafter.

From: AMAZON.COM Purchase Order: D6897946
 Contact: Cliff Ware Order Date: 27-Mar-2000
 E-Mail: chere@amazon.com SAN #: 152-6642
 Phone: 1-800-570-1454 x66891 WA Resale: 601-720-490
 Fax: 1-206-768-4999

Accounts Payable:
 Phone: 1-206-266-2107
 Fax: 1-206-622-2403

#BARCODE_HERE#

Vendor: Bud Lilly
 2007 Sourdough Rd
 Bozeman, MT
 59715

(For internal use only: BDL17)

Fax: 1-307-344-7374

Bud - I suggest you switch this to your fax number.

Please ship the following items to Amazon.com at the "Ship To" address listed below. We also ask that you please:

- * Notify us prior to shipping if any of the prices or discounts we list below are incorrect.
- * Include a reference to the "Purchase Order" number listed above on all shipping labels and correspondence related to this order.
- * Use the space provided below each ordered item for comments.

Please Note: Amazon.com reserves the right to cancel orders for items not received 90 days after the date of the purchase order.

Ship To: Amazon.com
 520 South Brandon Street
 Seattle, WA 98106

Bill To: Amazon.com
 PO Box 80387
 Seattle, WA 98108-0387

ISBN	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	NET	TOTAL
0871087448	A Trout's Best Friend : The Angling Autobiography of Bud Lilly by Lilly, Bud. List price: 24.95 Discount: 40%	1	14.97	14.97

Comment: _____

 SUBTOTAL: 14.97
 SHIPPING: 3.20

 TOTAL: 18.17

PURCHASE ORDER

Fax:

TO:
Bud Lilly's Angler's Retreat
PO Box 983
Three Forks, MT 59752

P. O. NUMBER 99-3125
DATE April, 6, 2000
REQUISITIONED BY Mary Fulton
SHIP BY
SHIP VIA
F.O.B.
TERMS

SHIP TO:
Montana State University
Renne Library
PO Box 173320
Bozeman, MT 59717-3320

*Purchase order number must appear
on all forms relating to this order.*

QTY	UNIT	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
1		Bud Lilly's guide to fly fishing	24.95	24.95

SUBTOTAL	24.95
FREIGHT	5.00
TAX RATE	
TAX	0.00
TOTAL DUE	29.95

Authorized by *Mary Fulton* Date *4/6/00*



CHECK NUMBER

1297653

P.O. BOX 80387

SEATTLE, WA 98108-0387

ADDRESS INQUIRES TO: 206-266-2107

VENDOR NAME BUD LILLY

VENDOR NUMBER 487718

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIPTION	DISCOUNT	NET AMOUNT
03292000	29-MAR-00	D6897946/SEA1/	0.00	18.17
TOTAL PAID				\$18.17

Jun 09 00 10:51a

Beverly Saltness

406-295-3436

p. 1

MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES, INC., BOZEMAN, MONTANA

24167

Obligation Description

Invoice number

Amount

2568

*** Total ***

TROUTS FRIEND

134.55

134.55



Museum of the Rockies, Inc.
Montana State University
600 W. Kagy Blvd.
Bozeman, Montana 59717-2730
(406) 994-5276

FIRST SECURITY BANK
BOZEMAN, MT

93-61
329

24167
CHECK NO.

19-768-13

** One Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and 55 Cents ** DATE

CHECK AMOUNT

06/07/2000

*****134.55

PAY BUD LILLY'S ANGLER'S RETREAT
TO THE ORDER OF 16 WEST BIRCH
THREE FORKS MT 59752

MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES, INC.

Sheldene M. Jensen

⑈024167⑈ ⑆092900613⑆

119008⑈

Paul Schullery
P.O. Box 184
Yellowstone Park, WY 82190
1-307-344-7720
fax 1-307-344-7374

~~Bud~~
Just trying to
keep track of
some details -
Paul

February 21, 2000

Kim Coch
Frank Amato Publications
P.O. Box 82112
Portland, OR 97282

Dear Kim:

Just a few details to mention, but first let me tell you how much we are enjoying the book, and how much we appreciate all the nice touches you folks added. We've had some very enthusiastic comments from friends and family.

I enclose a bill that I think is a mistake. You had an extra ten copies of the clothbound book sent to us so we could take care of inscribing and sending some of the "ceremonial" copies, to Tom Brokaw, Lefty, Gary Tanner, Governor Racicot, Jimmy Carter, and a few others that I can't think of right now. Oh, yes, Dale and Josh, who tied the flies, and to Leigh Perkins, at Orvis, who is a good friend and can help the book. I don't think I was supposed to be billed for those.

Then, I'm kind of anxious to get all the photographs and artwork back. It isn't just that I'm nervous having Bud's original early family pictures far away, though that is on my mind. It's that the Museum of the Rockies, here in Bozeman, is putting on a big exhibit on wild trout in cooperation with the American Museum of Fly Fishing, and they're dedicating a case to Bud and his work. It would be nice to have access to those pictures.

Then, we'd like the flies that were used for the photograph back, too. I think we might be able to use those in the exhibit, too.

I'll enclose a copy of the museum's magazine that has a little article about the museum's award to Bud last fall, too. Again, thanks for a wonderful job on the book.

Sincerely,

Paul Schullery

Bud Lilly 2007 Sourdough
Re Tsozeman, MT 59715

Invoice

Mar 29, 2000

Purchase Order:
D6897946

ISBN	Quantity	Net	Total
0871087448	1	14.97	14.97

A Trout's Best Friend
List price 24.95 less 40%

Sub Total	14.97
Shipping	3.20
	<hr/>
	18.17

Comment: Complete

AMAZON.COM

Order Inquiry
Order Date: 19-Jul-2000
SAN #: 152-6642Contact: Jarrod Guthrie
E-Mail: jarrod@amazon.com
Phone: 1-800-570-1454 x63503
Fax: (206) 768-4999

Please use this barcode as reference on answer



jarrod

VENDOR

Bud Lilly
2007 Sourdough Rd
Bozeman, MT
59715Attn: Inquiry
Fax: 1-307-344-7374

PRICE AND AVAILABILITY INQUIRY

We have customer orders for the following items. Before we place our order, we wish to receive your confirmation for the price and availability of each as well as the standard discount and shipping charges. If an item is not available, please indicate the status of the item.

Thanks for your help.

QTY	ISBN	PRICE	TITLE
1	0871087456	\$13.95	Trout's Best Friend : The Angling Autobiography of Bud Lilly Lilly, Bud; Schullery, Paul paperback (08/1988)

Best regards,

Jarrod Guthrie
Amazon.com
Books, Music & More
<http://www.amazon.com/>

(For internal use only: BDLY7)

Bud-
there's an order for the book. They sent this fax to me, but if you have a fax machine there it might be better to give them your number.

I miss seeing you guys.

Paul

3-23-00

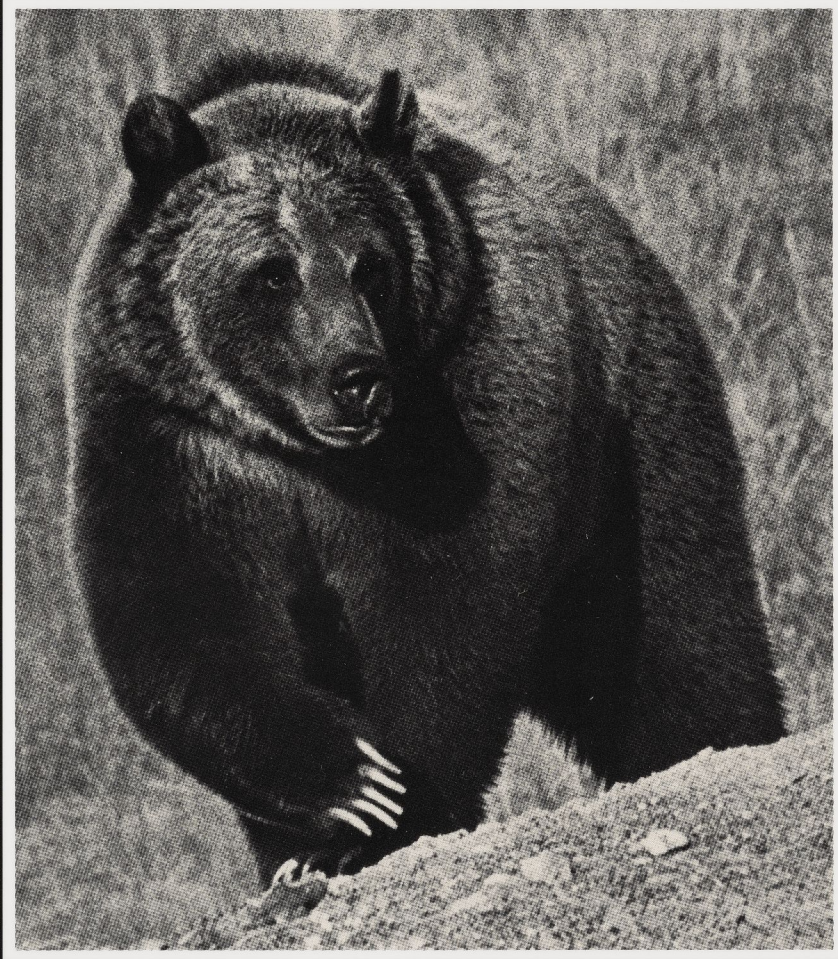
Bud-

My records aren't completely clear on this, but it looks like we paid Pruett \$1710.⁰⁰ for the books. For that we got 340 clothbound books and 850 paperbacks. They sold us the clothbound for \$68.⁰⁰ per box of 34 (ten boxes) and the paperbacks for \$90.⁰⁰ per box of 60 (fourteen boxes plus a few books). That's all I know. Sounds like you're right - we need to take inventory of what's left.

Paul

Bud Lilly
2007 Sourdough Road
Bozeman, MT
59715

YELLOWSTONE
BEAR TALES



PAUL SCHULLERY

Paul Schullery
P.O. Box 184
Yellowstone Park, WY 82190
1-307-344-7720
fax 1-307-344-7374
pschullery@gomontana.com

March 22, 2000

Kim Koch
Frank Amato Publications
P.O. Box 82112
Portland, OR 97282

Dear Kim:

This is an answer to your request for an excerpt of about 2,000 words from the book, to use as an article in your magazine. I chose a very popular subject, salmon flies, knowing there is some risk that you will think the topic has been covered enough but also thinking that Bud's approach has some fresh information and it seems like people are always interested in salmon flies. If this needs to be changed, or won't work, let me know and I'll try again.

I'll send a copy to Bud so he can see what I've done and let me know if anything needs fixing. I adapted it a little, and added a few things from other places in the book to make it more complete, but it's pretty much the material on pages 87 and 88 of the book.

I have a favor to ask, if it's even possible. Bud and I are thinking of getting the original flies that were pictured in the book framed together. We wonder if you have an extra copy of the dust jacket that we could use with the flies? All we'd really need is the color image of the front cover, if you have a spare from either edition.

Thanks for all your help with this. I am sending the books we signed for you and Kathy. And thanks for sending along the nice note from Jimmy Carter. That meant a lot to us.

Sincerely,

Paul Schullery

cc. Bud Lilly

*Bud -
Here's some
stuff,
Paul*

Fishing the Salmon Fly

by Bud Lilly with Paul Schullery

More than half a century ago, when the Navy let me go home at the close of World War II, I could hardly wait to get reacquainted with the Madison River near our place in Manhattan, Montana. There was hardly a soul around—just me and a few million salmon flies. I had been a serious fly fisherman for many years, but when the salmon flies were dripping off the bushes and huge trout were wallowing around on the surface after them, none of us were above picking a few live flies off the bushes. Sometimes we would fish them on a bare hook, sometimes we would add them to whatever large wet fly we already had on the line, perhaps one of F.G. Pott's wonderful old "Mite" patterns.

We caught a lot of big fish, up to a few pounds each, but the thing that stands out in my mind now, almost fifty years later, is one fish I never even got a look at. I was working a couple of weighted flies through a deep run when something grabbed them and without any hesitation just swam to the other side of the river and parked itself over near the far bank. I couldn't move it, even though I was using heavy line, probably ten- or twelve-pound test. Whatever it was, it just stayed there until finally I pulled so hard I broke the line. There's no knowing how big a trout it was, of course, though obviously it was a whole lot bigger than the three- or four-pounders we were able to land pretty quickly. The chance of getting a working knowledge of a fish like that is probably the greatest attraction of fishing the salmon fly hatch.

Here in the Yellowstone region where I live, people have been talking about "salmon flies" since at least the 1870s. They also called them "trout bugs," or "helgramites," or something else inaccurate, but everyone knew what they meant: the giant stonefly, *Pteronarcys californica*. They have been a special part of Rocky Mountain trout fishing since the first fly rods arrived out here in the 1800s, and fishing for trout on a stream when they're emerging is still a thrill for me after nearly seventy years of living right among them.

By the 1950s I was guiding, but the few other guides were pretty secretive about the salmon fly hatch, so my clients didn't know they were paying me to get some on-the-job

training. I had a couple from Texas who wanted to fish the salmon fly hatch, so I just took them down to an area I happened to enjoy.

We had an incredible day. I led them around just like I knew what I was doing, and we caught large browns until we were tired, including several that weighed over four pounds. When we quit for the day, we kept two and headed back to the car. As we crossed the road, some passing fishermen saw us dragging these big trout along. They swerved to a stop and ogled the fish while they asked us where we'd caught them.

"Oh, we just got them over there, in some good water."

"What on?"

"Salmon flies."

"My God, we just spent the entire day twenty-five miles down the river where the salmon flies are supposed to be, and we haven't gotten a thing."

What made that day stick in my mind wasn't the dumb luck of being in the right place at the right time. What was so memorable was that we caught only large fish. Besides the really big fish, we caught lots of browns in the sixteen- to eighteen-inch range. We were probably ten miles upstream of the hatch, so apparently the fish had been feeding on the nymphs as they moved to shore and were really ready for the adults. Our big dry flies were just what they were waiting for, and there wasn't another fisherman for miles.

Catching the Hatch

Everybody dreams of finding the large western stonefly hatches under ideal conditions. The most experienced fishermen in the world can't tell you what day, or where, or anything else precise, about the salmon fly hatch. The salmon fly is one of the hardest hatches to plan a trip around.

The salmon fly is one of the real bruisers of the insect world. You would think that if any fly could hatch regardless of environmental conditions it would surely be the one. But it doesn't work that way. Salmon flies are as sensitive to changing conditions as any other flies. If there is

a sudden spring rain or snow, or if there are high winds or some other change in conditions, the hatches in a stretch of river can be scrambled instantly and never make sense again that year. If there is a sudden air temperature change while the adults are exposed, they may die (like flies!). An abrupt change in water temperature just when the nymphs are about to emerge may also kill a lot of them.

From my observations it appears to me that the big stonefly nymphs begin to show pre-emergence activity as much as several weeks before they actually leave the water. In that period they begin crawling toward shore. After a while so many of them are moving that there is a general migration toward shore. It goes on for weeks, and offers a real service to guides, who can more or less track the nymphs by turning over a few rocks and seeing where the biggest concentrations of nymphs are.

The salmon fly is at its best from about the last week of May until the first ten days of August. Some of the rivers in my region may still be in high water during the hatch. The Yellowstone north of the park is out of condition for dry fly fishing during the salmon fly hatch four years out of five.

There is a well-known western recreation called "following the hatch," which involves careening up and down the river in your car with your head hanging out the window as you look for the bugs in the air. A lot of the time, however, there is no clearly defined "front" of the hatch. At times, depending on the various environmental conditions mentioned earlier, the flies may actually be emerging or laying their eggs along 25 miles of river at once. There may be no one "magic" section of river, and the fish may be on the lookout for the flies for weeks after the heaviest part of the hatch has passed by. Paul tells me he has used to use salmon fly imitations most of the summer on smaller freestone streams in Yellowstone Park, and the fish didn't seem to lose interest in them.

The fish are better at this than we are

One little-known element of the salmon fly hatch is that the fish will sometimes migrate

to follow the hatch. Most resident trout in a stream may live their lives in a fairly short stretch of river, at least through a summer season. They'll move as water temperature, depth, and other factors dictate, but usually they won't move too far. But I'm sure that some fish will travel long distances to follow the heaviest part of the salmon fly hatch. A friend of mine hooked and lost a trout once on the Madison, using a Sofa Pillow he'd tied himself. The next day he caught that same fish, with his fly still in its mouth, about a mile upstream. There was no mistaking the fly, so we knew that at least this one trout was willing to move a long way to keep up with the food. I've seen similar movements on the Henry's Fork, when the salmon fly nymphs are moving and get washed out of the mouth of the Box Canyon area in great numbers. Trout will move up to the mouth of the canyon from the meadow stretches downstream to take advantage of the food.

The fish have been paying attention long before we start to see flies in the air. Trout notice all the pre-emergence activity, and will gorge themselves on the nymphs long before they start taking the adults on the surface. Interestingly, this often happens by fish species, with the browns switching to the adults first, then maybe the next day browns and rainbows, and then there may be a day when all you catch is whitefish. It may be that the browns are the quickest to switch to the surface flies because of some trait we don't fully understand, but I've seen this sequence often enough to know it isn't occurring by chance.

The trout can get enough, even if there are still flies available. Eventually, if the hatch is heavy enough, all the fish may stop feeding, having become lethargic from being so stuffed. The only good news in this is that the largest fish are often the last ones to stop feeding, so if you're fishing a stretch of water after the hatch has gone through you may have an unusually good chance at the big fish who had enough appetite to keep feeding longer.

Presentation and Pattern

Most of the time you fish the adult of the salmon fly as you would any other dry fly, but there are times when it's useful to work the fly. If you find a small back-eddy you can give the fly a twitch now and then; the adults struggle and flutter a lot on the surface.

There are several sizes of the naturals, and when the hatch is really heavy I use a large fly, probably a #4. I have used #2's, but they won't all take a #2. When they're feeding less heavily I'll use a smaller fly, a #6 or maybe even a #8. There is a good bit more to this than just pitching it out there.

There are countless patterns, but I'd keep in mind profile most of all. There are times when the trout seem to prefer a fly that is partly drowned, and I've taken many fish on a dry fly that has sunk completely. The advantage of the Sofa Pillow, or the Bird's Stonefly, under some circumstances is that they have such a low profile that they simulate the naturals in the last stage of their lives when they're just barely floating along. On the other hand, the bushier silhouette of a Stimulator sometimes draws more attention, or just makes a meatier splash when it hits the water. And a number of rubber-legged patterns have that added quivering motion that seems to make such a difference. Go into any good-sized tackle shop in the region and sort through the various bullet-headed, foam-bodied, mono-antennaed concoctions for what looks good to you, but keep in mind how they'll look on or in the water, and try to have some high-floaters and some low-riders.

You may not think of trout feeding on these big flies as being selective, but there are lots of kinds of selectivity. I've noticed that the fish can be selective to the size of the salmon flies. There is a period when they seem to prefer the larger flies, and there may be a period when they want something as small as a #8. Keep in mind that everything else on the river doesn't go away just because the salmon flies are hatching. One reason the fish may prefer smaller flies is that the golden stonefly hatches about the same time, and they may switch over to this smaller fly. On the other hand, it's hard to know sometimes what the fish are thinking. Paul describes watching a rainbow trout come up under a live salmon fly that was struggling and thrashing around on the surface of a quiet pool; after a few seconds examining the bug, the fish left, rejecting the real thing!

It's Not Always Hog Heaven

I remember a day on the Madison during the salmonfly hatch, years ago. I was fishing with a good friend, Sam Radan, and we'd already caught some big trout, when just downstream from Varney Bridge I saw a fish rising to the naturals in midstream. I worked my way out to him, right up to the top of my chest waders, and confidently put a fly over him. No take. I moved closer and tried again. I tried different flies, different tippets. I moved closer. I could see that he weighed four or five pounds. He was throwing spray like another fish weighing more than five pounds that I'd caught earlier that day. I got so close he was actually throwing spray on my glasses when he rose. Sam was watching from the bank. I'd cast, the fish would rise and take a natural, Sam would cuss, and I'd cast again. Nothing worked.

I didn't catch him. He never stopped rising, and I never spooked him, but he just wouldn't take. It may be something you didn't think you needed to learn to do, but it's a humbling part of your education as a fly fisherman to have to walk away from an eagerly rising trophy trout just because you can't catch him. Salmon flies can teach you about that, too.

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June 6, 2001

Bud Lilly
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Bud:

I suppose it's time we firm up our plans for this little outing to Salt Lake City in September, so I'm going to actually write a letter so that I make sure I have the plan straight. You have talked directly with Leon, and I haven't, so you can let me know if I have this right.

First, as I understand the dates, we would go down to Utah on the fourth, be there all of the fifth, and come back on the sixth. Is that right?

Second, I gather that each of us is to make his own reservations at the hotel. Do you have the information on how to do that yet? I'm a light sleeper and figured on getting my own room.

Third, we have an interesting offer of a ride. Our friend Gary Tanner is coming out for the fly tackle dealer show anyway, and he has offered to fly into Bozeman and rent a car. We three could drive down on the fourth and come back on the sixth. Gary might want to spend a little time the morning of the sixth (Thursday) at the show before leaving Salt Lake City, but I wouldn't mind walking around for a while myself.

So how does that sound to you? It would save us from using either of our cars, and spending money on gas, which I assume Gary would cover anyway.

Let me know what you think about all this, and if I have it right. I suppose that I should let Gary know pretty soon so he can firm up his plans too.

Hope to see you soon.

Paul

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April 8, 2002

Bud Lilly
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Bud:

I was looking through this catalog of Marty Keane's and I thought of you. Been meaning to call and catch up anyway, but I might as well send a note so I can send these flies.

I don't know if you ever see Marty's catalog. He lavishes the adjectives on his rare classic fly rods in the catalog, but he really does have some amazing stuff. I don't know how he finds some of these treasures. But what I thought might interest you is that he has several Paul Young rods. I recall you saying you had one or more of them, and so I thought you might like to see what he says about them. Some of his are obviously one-of-a-kind special models, but others seem to be production rods, so you can see what they're going for.

Marsha and I have been fighting colds and similar crud all winter. We left to go visit my mother a couple weeks ago and got as far as South Dakota, where we visited my sister and her husband in Custer for a day or so, and I was getting so sick that we decided to turn back. We just couldn't face another 1,500 miles through the snowstorms to Ohio, and by the time we got home Marsha was sick too. Of course the car chose then to get sick too, and we ended up getting towed twice, once from Crow Agency to Hardin, and once across Billings. So after finally getting home and going to the clinic, we decided to just spend our two-week vacation hiding out in the townhouse in Bozeman. After a few days we were only half miserable and started to enjoy it, even though we still weren't fit company and mostly stayed inside. It was the most relaxed vacation I ever had! Nothing but reading, tying flies, sleeping, and taking legal drugs. I guess we're better now, sort of. Still exhausted most of the time.

Anyway, here are few more flies, for what they're worth. I kind of like the look of this one, kind of a Gold-ribbed Hare's Ear Scud Soft Hackle kind of thing.

Also, I started tying some of Charlie's style of Montana Nymphs, but I'm going to have to tie a few more before I'm willing to let anybody else see them. I know he always made a big deal about how ugly the fly should be, but with these I think I've succeeded beyond his wildest expectations. Pretty rough. If I get some to come out better I'll share them, but the ones I tied so far I'm going to have to just sneak down to the Gardner before the sun comes up, and keep them underwater so nobody sees them.

I think a lot about our unfinished project with your papers and stuff. I think I'm about ready to get back to that now. I had to do my own first. I've spent a lot of time this winter working my way through all the files and stuff I've accumulated from my writing. You know those white file boxes I used when I organized your stuff? Well, I've filled about thirty of them with my papers!

I guess I finally got around to getting it all in shape because of my bladder surgery last year. It scared the hell out of me to realize that I didn't want to leave Marsha a big attic full of unsorted shit to figure out what to do with.

Now it's a big attic full of sorted shit instead. She's happy with it though, because all the boxes are labeled whether they go to M.S.U. or the dumpster. That's her kind of sorting.

Well, I keep thinking about your ponds and wishing I'd been out there already harassing those fish. Maybe in a couple more weeks.

Best to all. We think of you guys all the time. Hope to see you soon.

Paul