

B & M Farms

HCR 2 Box 32

Friona, Texas 79035

LANZA BOGCESS

29.95



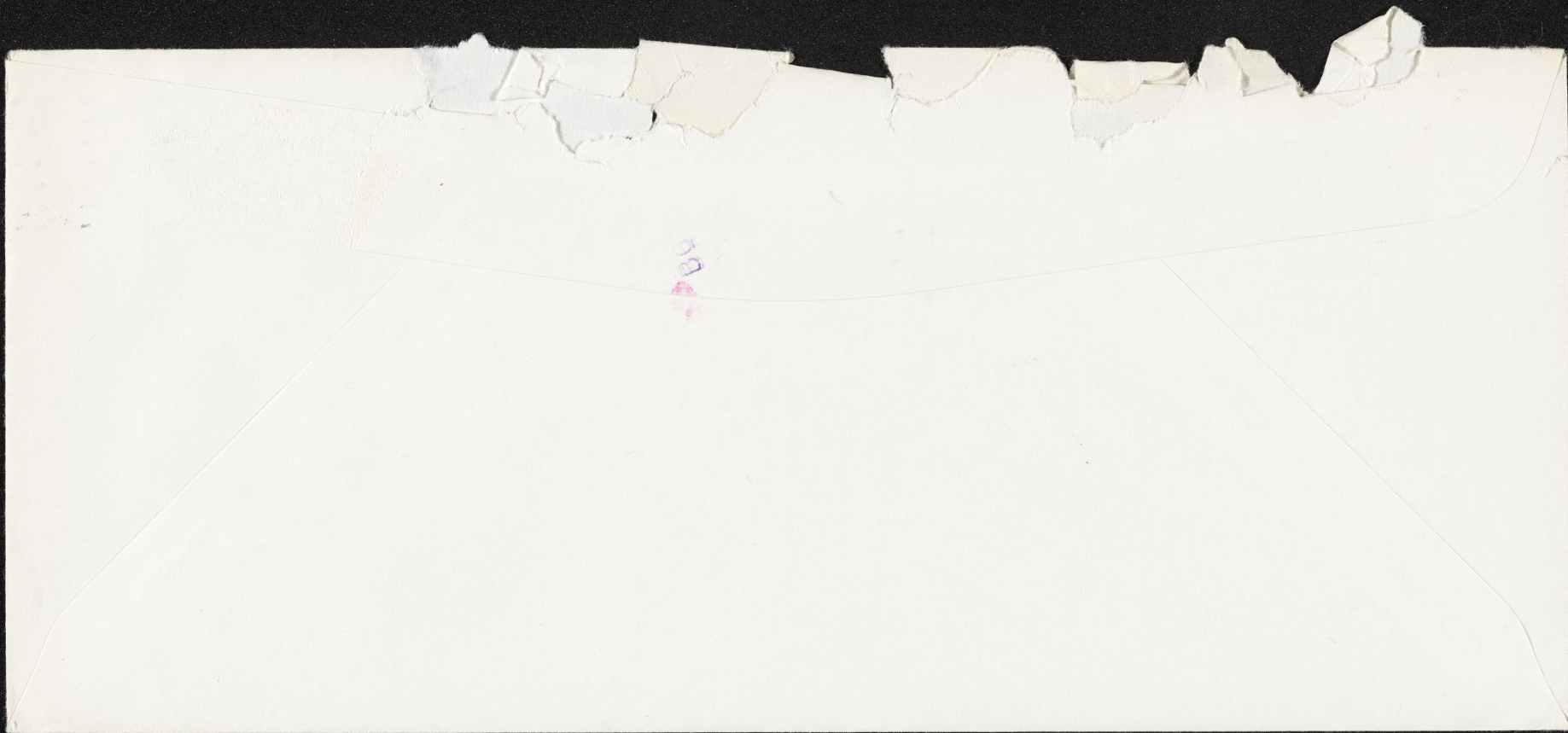
Syl NEMES

S

Box 3782

BOZEMAN, MT 59772

✓
29.95
ORDER



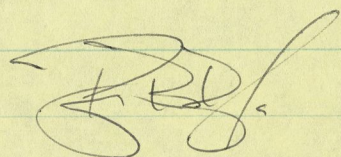
DEAR MR NEMES.

PLEASE SEND ME YOUR NEW BOOK - SOFT-
HACKLED FLY IMITATIONS. I HAVE ENCLOSED
A CHECK FOR 29⁹⁵.

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR OTHER
TWO BOOKS, THEY HAVE MADE MY FISHING MUCH
MORE ENJOYABLE ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE MADE
IT DIFFICULT FOR ME TO CATCH AS MANY FISH
AS MY WIFE. SHE FISHES ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY
WITH SOFT HACKLES; SHE'S A VERY GOOD FISHERPERSON.

WE HAVE BOTH CAUGHT SEVERAL VERY NICE TROUT
18 & 19 inches ON YOUR SOFT HACKLES.

THANKS AGAIN.



RANZA BOGGS

ADDRESS:

RANZA BOGGS

RT 2 Box 32

FRIONA TEXAS 79032

Sylvester Nemes

Dept. F. S.

P.O. Box 3782

Bozeman, Montana 59772

Dear Mr. Nemes,

Please send me a copy
of your book entitled The Soft
Hackled Fly. If you would,
please sign the copy. I have
enclosed a check for \$18.⁹⁵.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

JCS
Mar 29/97
Jim Belmont

Address:

Jim Belmont

Rt. 1 Box 512 Sparrow Springs Rd.

Gastonia, N.C. 28052

Please mail to: L. Cochran
312 B Boonton Ave.
Boonton, N.J.

07005

Dear MR NEMES:

Enclosed is a check for ^{\$}29.95.

Please send me your re-issue
of The Soft Hackled Fly along
with a dozen soft hackles
tied by you.

A friend of mine recently
received this from you. I was
impressed with your writing
style as well as your flies!
USPS May
Very Truly yours, 30

Robert M. Barnett

FRED BUNCH
4432 MILRED
BELLARE, TX 77401

MR NEMES:

SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG TO GET THE
CHECK AND ORDER TO YOU FOR THE BOOKS -
I LOST MY NOTES!!

PLEASE SEND ME:

2 - "SOFT HACKLE FLY" BOOKS -	\$ 34.00
1 - "SOFT HACKLE IMITATIONS" -	28.00
	62.00
SHIPPING	3.00
	\$ 65.00

IF YOU WILL SIGN THEM IT WOULD BE GREAT!

1 COPY OF SOFT HACKLE AND THE
IMITATION WILL BE MINE -

THE SOFT HACKLE ~~IMITATION~~ SECOND
COPY WILL BE DONATED TO THE CLUB.

IF YOU'D TIE A COUPLE OF FLIES AS WE
DISCUSSED IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL -

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE
WATER NEXT YEAR -

UGRS

JUN 24

F.BUNCH

7

Licensed Land Surveyor
Vt. No. 11 N.H. No. 170

George F. Butts
Land, Boundary & Survey Consultant
Box 360
Chittenden, VT 05737
(802) 483-2891

25 November 1991

Sylvester Nemes
Dept. FS, P.O. Box 3782
Bozeman, Mont 59772

ORDER FOR NEW BOOK

Inclosed is my check for \$29.95. Please send a copy of your new book *Soft-Hackle Fly Imitations*.

I have owned your other books since the first years they were published and have enjoyed them and found them beneficial. Am looking forward to your new work.

Although it seems that you are a few years older than me, we have a surprisingly similar fly-fishing apprenticeship. I grew-up in the Finger Lakes region of New York somewhat west of the Catskill trout streams, began fly fishing and fly tying in the late 40s, was drafted during the Korean War and sent to Munich, Germany late in 1951. Posted to the headquarters signal company, three other draftees and myself were the first draftees seen there by the regular army members of the company. Several of the veterans being good anglers with a wide knowledge of Bavarian trout waters. One old sargeant had been in Munich since before the war was over.

Opening day 1952 found me with some of the regulars enjoying the first of many outstanding fishing trips. I reenlisted because of the fishing and spent a lot of time on those waters from 1952 through 1957. Caught my first Grayling on the waters of the *Wiesent* in Franconia, written about by Schwiebert and fished by the legendary Skues.

Back to fly tying. During my high school days in the late 40s I managed to buy three books, Bergman's *Trout*, and two small volumes that cost \$2.00 each, Leisenring's book on tying the wet fly and *Fur, Feathers and Steel* by the famed Catskill tyer Reuben Cross. For some reason, Leisenring and wet fly fishing have always been my favorites. I tied and fished his patterns long before they became stylish.

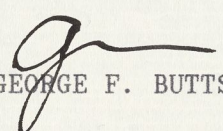
Then along came your first book which added to Leisenring (Hidy's additions and his naming of the Flymph were also beneficial.) and then the second which covered the history of the soft-hackled fly. Am sure your third will add to the saga of the soft-hackle wet fly.

VS PS
NW 30

When not matching the hatch, my favorite prospecting fly was a wet stonefly fished in the rapids. Today, it still forms the point fly, with a Partridge and Orange as first dropper and a real bobber, such as a wet Coachman or Royal Wulff. I would venture that over forty percent of the trout caught this year were caught on that cast and most of them on the P&O.

I have two samples of your flies tied by you. The first came with your second book, the other came from the Fly Shop in Winooski, Vermont and is taped in your first book. I would like to acquire other patterns to use as examples for my own tying. Here in the Rutland, Vermont area we have a great tying club, The Green Mountain Fly Tyers, and have done a lot of tying in the last two or three years. If you have a catalog, please send me a copy.

Petri Heil !



GEORGE F. BUTTS

ph

Incl



WESLEY C. BLAIR
10412 Chisholm Ave
Cupertino, CA 95014



Ferryboat 1900s
32 USA



Recorded

30.00

Syl Nemes

P.O. Box 3782

Bozeman, MT 59772

Cupertino Ca
1/26/96

Dear Syl -

Enclosed is my check for \$30.

I would love to have a signed
copy of your new book "SPINNERS"
Best of luck to you.

Wes Blair



Wesley C. Blair
10412 Chisholm Ave.
Cupertino, CA 95014

GONE FISHIN'



SATURDAY
JANUARY • 1996

27

Although New Zealand trout are big, they are few and far between. Catch one and it could be some time before you come upon the next. In the meantime, enjoy an invigorating walk.

SUNDAY
JANUARY • 1996

28



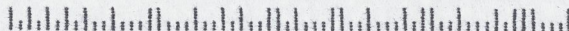
Mr. Gregory R. Belcamino
14 Horatio St.
New York, NY 10014-1652



CANT FIND CHECK.

Sylvester Meme
P.O. Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59772

59772/3782



GREGORY R. BELCAMINO

7/31/98

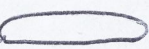
Dear Syd —

Enclosed is my check for
\$25.00 for an autographed copy
of Six Months in Scotland.

Please mail it to me at

14 HORATIO ST., APT. 9E
NEW YORK, NY 10014

Thanks —

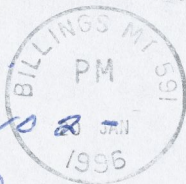
Greg Belca 

R. BARNHART, M.D.

2528 BRIDGER DR.

BILLINGS, MT. 59102

Recorded 30.00



54/ NEMES

P.O.B. 3782

BOZEMAN, MT. 59712

2528 BRIDGE DR.
Bellingham, Mt. 59102

Dear Syd & Mrs. Nemes,

Business first. Enclosed is a check (\$150)
for "Spinners" - galley. I'm looking
forward to having it in my library
along side your other three volumes.

Further, it has been a privilege
to make your acquaintance & share
your fly tying & fishing expertise.
The legacy you have brought
forth is especially rewarding to me.

Sincerely yours -
Randall Luke Jones, M.D.

*D. G. B. Associates
Custom Fly-Tying-Guided Trips
P.O. Box 11
Waldwick, New Jersey 07463
201-236-0443 (evenings)*

Mr. Sylvester Nemes
P.O. Box 3782F
Bozeman, Montana
59772

Dear Mr. Nemes,

I have enclosed the sum of \$38.47 for one copy each of your famous 'Soft Hackled Fly Imitations' and your new work "Spinners".

I saw your advertisement in my January edition of Fly Tackle Dealer.

I hope I have enclosed the correct amount for shipping and handling.

I would be most appreciative if you could sign each copy.

My home mailing address is : 25 Mohigan Way, Mahwah, New Jersey, 07430.

Yours truly,

Donald G. Beier

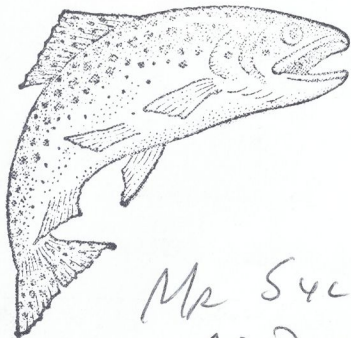
MR. NEMES,
This is the copy of my
original order. I have not received
the 2 books as of 2/29/96. I have attached
a photo copy of my returned check.
Please send signed copies of Soft Hackled Fly Imitations
& Spinners to: DONALD G. BEIER
25 MOHIGAN WAY
MAHWAH, NJ 07430
D: 201-984-7520
E: 201-236-0443

Seal 2nd set 3/4/96

Tom Birdwell

30.00

recorded



Mr Syl Nemes

PO Box 3782

Bozeman, MT 59772

DR. TOM BIRDWELL

~~123 SEAMARGE CIRCLE~~ 22 Lakeside Dr

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 3250Z

93



from the desk of
Tom Birdwell, M.D.
Flyfisher

12-14

Dear Syl -

Please send a signed
copy of Summers also
if you have a spare
fly tied by you - I'd
love one -

Let me know what
you decide on the
price of 4 / ⁵⁺ - ed. J

The Soft Hatched Fly - (1)

have a '88 reprint
signed by you -)

This is one of
Amuro-san's "Forward
Pointed" Soft Hatched flies
from Japan - Mark
As per

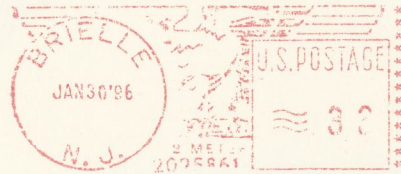
You

BOX 333, BRIELLE, NEW JERSEY 08730

JOE BLAZE

received 30.00

Syl Nemes
P.O. Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59772





P.O. BOX 333 • BRIELLE, NEW JERSEY 08730

(908) 223-5575

DATE 1-10-96

SUBJECT

TO Syl Nemes

PO Box 3782

Bozeman, MT 59772

As per your letter, please send Joe Blaze a copy of SPINNERS. Enclosed is a check for \$30.00.

Please send it to: Mr. Joe Blaze

P.O. Box 333

Brielle, NJ 08730

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Thanks.

SIGNED

Liz Masto

Syl Nemes
PO Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59772
406 587 8301
Jan 10, 1995

Dear Fly Fishing Friend:

Well, I'm writing you to tell you about my new book, SPINNERS, the first book dedicated solely to adult mayflies. I spent three years collecting, studying and identifying spinners (with the help of an entomologist from Montana State University). The book records dates of appearance, molting and mating habits and colors, shapes and sizes of nearly 40 species. There are more than 30 new spinner patterns which are quick and easy to tie from readily available materials. A new winging method (the most difficult part of tying a spinner as you know) is described using only hackle fibers which are divided, flattened and pulled with wetted or waxed thumbs and forefingers. (No difficult figure 8's.)

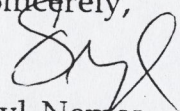
New patterns, like Syl's Gold Plated spinner™ and Syl's Gold Tail Spinner™ are highly productive during a spinner fall and are also very effective during the hatch of duns. There are also dun/spinners with the body of spinners and wings of duns to be fished anytime, and doubles, two small flies tied on larger hooks for better visibility and better hooking.

The book is 6 x 9, with 157 pages of black and white text and with a 16 page color section featuring some rare macro photos of spinners including one just molting out of its dun skin.

The book features fine vellum binding from Dekker Book Binding in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and should be ready to mail about Jan 25. This milestone book will retail for \$34.95, but I'm writing you with a pre-publication offer of \$30.00, post paid, which means you'll receive your first edition, signed copy long before the book will be available in stores and fly shops, if you send your check now. You will also save several dollars.

If you want to find out more about the book, please call me at 406 587 8301. You can also charge the \$30 to your Visa or Mastercard credit card.

Sincerely,


Syl Nemes

Joe → Jiz one copy



LUFTPOST
PARAVION VIA AEREA

NORMAN BLOCK



A



Letter sent
Dec 8

10/4/95

Recorder

12/10/95

check removed

MR. SYL NEMES

BOX 3782

BOZEMAN

MONTANA 59772

USA



EZCO MAILQUICK

NORMAN BLOCK
GRABENACKERSTRASSE 46
CH - 6312 STEINHAUSEN
SWITZERLAND

29 September 1995

Mr.Syl Nemes
Box 3782
Bozeman
Montana 59772
USA

Dear Mr. Nemes,

I would like to order two (2) signed copies of your new book,
SPINNERS. Enclosed is a check for \$71.90.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Norman Block

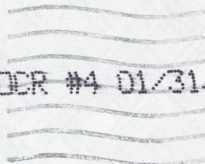
Norman Block



John R. Boyer
1635 Witherbee
Troy, MI 48084

Recorded 30.00

ROYAL OAK MI 480483 DER #4 01/31/96



MR. SYL NEMES

P.O. Box 3782

BOZEMAN, MT.

59772

1/30/96

DEAR MR. NEMES

I HAVE ENJOYED ALL YOUR
PREVIOUS BOOKS.

PLEASE SEND ME SPINNERS.
ENCLOSED FIND CHECK FOR
\$30.00.

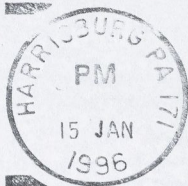
THANK YOU.

JOHN R. BLOYER
1635 WITHERBEE
TROY, MICHIGAN
48084

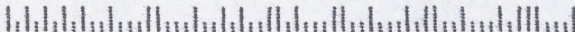


F. W. Bohls
3519 Ada Dr.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

ordered 30.00



*Syl Nemes
P.O. Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59712*



FRED BOHLS
3519 ADA DRIVE
MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17055
(717) 732-5050

Syl -

Really enjoyed your
Soft Huckle books : am
looking forward to receiving
the book on Spinners -

Keep up the good
work

F.

Patrick Boland
Larchmont NY
30.30 recorded



MN. Syl Nemes
PO Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59772

**12 HILLSIDE ROAD
LARCHMONT, NEW YORK 10538**

PATRICK J. BOLAND

1/23/96

Dear Mr. Nemes:

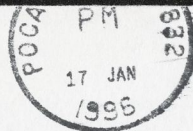
Please send me a copy of
Spinners as soon as it is
ready.

Thank you.

Patrick

Linda H. Bridwell
910 Westwood Drive
Rexburg, Idaho 83440-3826

recorded 30.00
1/20



Syl Nemes

P. O. Box 3782

Bozeman, MT 59772

Syl Nemes
PO Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59772
December 20, 1995

Dear Fly Fishing Friend:

Well, I'm writing you to tell you about my new book, SPINNERS, the first book dedicated solely to adult mayflies. I spent three years collecting, studying and identifying spinners (with the help of an entomologist from Montana State University). The book records dates of appearance, molting and mating habits and colors, shapes and sizes of nearly 40 species. There are more than 30 new spinner patterns which are quick and easy to tie from readily available materials. A new winging method (the most difficult part of tying a spinner as you know) is described using only hackle fibers which are divided, flattened and pulled with wetted or waxed thumbs and forefingers. (No difficult figure 8's.)

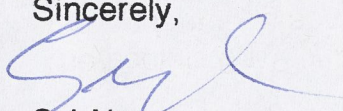
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The book is 6 x 9, with 157 pages of black and white text and with a 16 page color section featuring some rare macro photos of spinners including one just molting out of its dun skin.

The book features fine vellum binding from Dekker Book Binding in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and should be ready to mail about Jan 18. This milestone book will retail for \$34.95, but I'm writing you with a pre-publication offer of \$30.00, post paid, which means you'll receive your first edition, signed copy long before the book will be available in stores and fly shops, if you send your check now. You will also save several dollars.

If you want to find out more about the book, please call me at 406 587 8301.

Sincerely,


Syl Nemes

*Enclosed is my check
for \$30.00 for your
book. Please send
to:*

208.354.2275

Linda H. Bridwell
910 Westwood Drive
Rexburg, Idaho 83440-3826

Linda H. Bridwell 16 Jan 96

Stephen Bradford
505 Corine St.
Hayti, Mo.
63851

* HAPPY HOLIDAYS * 63701-22:34 12/01/95



recorded

Nemes

35.95

Box 3782

Bozeman, Mt. 59772

12/1/95

Dear Sir :

Enclosed is my check for \$35.95
to purchase a HC, signed book
titled Spinners.

Please send to :

STEPHEN BRADFORD
505 Corrine St.

Hayti, Mo.
63851

Thank you,
Stephen Bradford

JOHN A. PARKS COMPANY

INSURANCE SERVICE

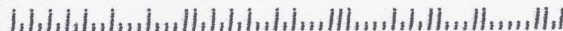
WEST 49 WILLIS - DETROIT, MICH. 48201-1899



SYLVESTER & HAZEL NEMES
3200 SHOOTING STAR LN
BOZEMAN, MT 59715-8705



597158705 R005



A FULL SERVICE AGENCY
HOME • AUTO • LIFE
COMMERCIAL

from the desk of
Patrick Brazzil

3-30-07

Hello Syl and Hazel:

Thank you for your patience in receiving my check. I truly appreciate Syl being able to join us at the 2007 Midwest Fly Fishing Expo this year.

Previously you had sent me 18 books as follows: *2 L TDS*

- Soft Hackled Fly & Tiny Soft Hackles	<i>4 2</i> books	@	\$34.95	Ttl:	\$ 69.90
- Two Centuries of Soft Hackled Flies	<i>4 3</i> books	@	\$34.95	Ttl:	\$104.85
- Soft Hackled Imitations	<i>5</i> books	@	\$27.95	Ttl:	\$139.75
- Soft Hackle Fly Addict	<i>5 4</i> books	@	\$24.95	Ttl:	\$ 99.80
- Spinners	<i>5 4</i> books	@	\$34.95	Ttl:	<u>\$139.80</u>

TOTAL OWING: 18 \$554.10

Enclosed is a check for \$554.10. Is this correct? If it is, THANK YOU!

If not, what is the correct amount?

Also, Syl had given me two books at the show that I need to send back and have him autograph and add a fly. I will also, at that time, I will probably request that you send me 3 more books as I have sold a total of 23.

I will be in touch soon.

Dick Talleur, Joe Humphreys, Kelly Galloup, Bob Jacklin and I had a GREAT time with Syl. I hope he had fun with us.

Best Regards,

Patrick Brazzil
Michigan Fly Fishing Club

4 not Scotland.

HAND CARRIED 5 6 MOS SCOTLAND
1 FRAMED FLIES
10 DVDS SOLD 5
2 LTD SOFT HACKLEFLY 2ND ED

Route 114 - Box 579
Lake Massasaugus
Bradford, N.H. 03221

Dear Sylvester,

My wife Margaret and I met you at the Angler's Book Fair last July. We both enjoyed meeting you there. You were the first author we met there the day before it started.

I felt bad, that I did not purchase your book there especially after meeting you; because you were so nice and friendly !! 8/91 ~

However I purchased your Book The Soft-Hackled Fly and received it from Montana. With your fly and signature. I like it very much! and I'm almost through reading it. Also made some of your flies, and I'm very much impressed. We enjoyed the Angler's Fair and enjoyed meeting

II

Pennsylvania people. I was raised along the Susquehanna River, and I always enjoy meeting them, and Pennsylvania folk are always friendly.

After enjoying the reading of your book, I just felt like writing to you and telling you how much I liked it.

With Sincere Regards!

Bob Bacon

P.S. On Dec. 7, 1991 I'm going to receive my Pearl Harbor Medal at Portsmouth, N.H. I'm mighty proud of that!

49

Canada

Delicious Apple
Pommier «Delicious»



Sgt. NEMES

P.O. BOX 3782

B 22
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

59772

A BENNETT
163 SLATER AVENUE
WP9, MB.
R2G-ONG

EA

Andrew Bennett
163 SLATER AVENUE
WINNIPEG, MB.
R2G 0N6

Syl NEMES
P.O. BOX 3782
BOZEMAN, MONTANA
59712

May 30 / 93

Dear Syl,

Here are six cactus flies for you to try
on the Steelhead in your area. These flies
have been used successfully on great lakes
Steelhead from Thunder Bay to Michigan's
Pere Marquette. I hope you have success with
them. Please let me know if you do.

Sincerely,
Andrew
Bennett

18 May 1993

Frank J. Bratton
301 May Ave
Woodbury, N.J. 08096

My Dear Mr. Nemes:

I have been fly fishing on and off for over 20 years. Likewise I have been tying flies for the same duration. Recently I purchased your book "The Soft-Hackled Fly". My local tackle shop was out of stock and had to order it - I was quite pleased to see you had signed it. I have read it cover to cover three times as it has become one of my favorites. I enjoy your historical review of the soft hackle fly and believe in your theory. Also tying them is easy, fun and in the fly box they do appear very buggy.

I was thrilled to read your article in the May Fly Fisherman and see you have written another book "Soft-Hackled Fly Imitations". As you published "The Soft-Hackled Fly" yourself I was needing to know if your other book was available thru you or should I have my local fly shop order it?

I have tied up three dozen different of your flies in sizes 12-16 and am dying to get out and fish them; which I will as soon as

possible.

I would like to know if a couple of flies you yourself would somehow be available along with your signature on white stock. I would love to have them to use as models for my own efforts. I will not lie to you as if I could obtain flies from your hand they will never be fixed but mounted for display in my study.

I hope you have the time to respond to my inquiry. In the event you do I have enclosed a franked envelope pre addressed.

If however you cannot find the time I will understand.

Continued good health, good times afield and optimism and continue writing.

Thank you for writing to Soft Hackled Fly.

Sincerely
Frank J. Bratton

P.S. Please send 10 Copies of the
New Book Surface mail.

Dear Syl,
Best wishes for Christmas and
the New Year.

Andrew Boggs

1992 A happy Christmas and tight lines for the New Year from Australian Fly Fisherman





5.16-93

Dear Lyl News,

I'm dropping you
this line to ask about the soft
backh imitation book I requested.

I have not recieved as of this date
and was wondering if it was sent.

You recieved the check around the
first week of april for thirty dollars.

Also per our phone conversation on

April 28TH I was hoping to have
you sign the book and possibly, include
a fly tied by you. If you can please
let me know what is the status of
my order.

Thanks
Mike Butsch (over)

Mike Butsch
7212 PARK AVE
Cinti. OH 45231
(513) 729-3349

"BROWN TROUT AND SPRUCE FLY"

*Reproduced from
an original etching
by angling artist
MIKE STIDHAM*

Reproduced and distributed
exclusively by:
© 1987 ANGLER'S EXPRESSIONS, INC.
P.O. Box 3136
Boise, Idaho 83703 U.S.A.



AK'S FLY SHOPPE



FEB. 28, 1989

Dear Syl,

It was a pleasure to meet you at the Denver Expo last week. I enjoyed talking with you about flies and the music of Satie. Not many people in this business (at least of those that I've met) have a keen interest in classical music.

I'm taking the liberty of attaching 3 of my favorite Soft Hackle flies:



They are

left to right: my version of the Hans's Car; yellow caddis (the yellow rabbit dropper takes on a slightly greenish cast when wet), which is very effective on the Colorado River; and - Soft Hackle Bastis, which works well (better than the nymph or standard emerger pattern) at the beginning of a hatch.

I fish the Hans's Car in size 12 - through 16; the yellow caddis in 12 & 14,

3330 34th St. Boulder, Colo. 80301

(303) 443-7679

& the Bastis in sizes 16 & 18.

My friend John Gierach & I may be
in & around the Yellowstone area in Aug.
It would be our pleasure to spend some
time tramping with you if that were to
be possible. I'll contact you well in
advance, if you'd be willing. or
maybe a Brandy & Sarsie! or maybe
Both!!

— Stay Happy

— G.K. Beck

GARY BORGER, LTD.
5001 PACKER DRIVE
WAUSAU, WI 54401
U.S.A
(715) 842-9879

September 15, 1993

Syl Nemes
P.O. Box 3782
Bozeman, MT 59772

Dear Syl,

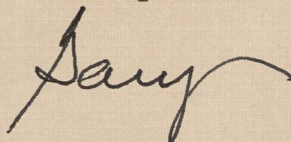
Here's a chunk of the "Twinkle" organza. It's the best spinner winging material I've ever seen. It's proved itself many times on really tough fish. I got the material from Bob Brooks at Hot Creek Ranch who got it from Wayne Luallen. Where Wayne got it I don't know. I'll track him down tonight and find out. If it wasn't original with him, I'll let you know.

To use it, first cut it into 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 inch squares so you can pull the fibers out. Keep the wing sparce--too much of a good thing is too much! For sizes 16 and smaller, just use the Twinkle for the wing. For 14 and larger, add a hackle and wind it "X" style over the twinkle and trim top and bottom. The hackle supports the fly and gives the added width necessary to correctly suggest the wing.

I've enclosed two flies tied as above: a size 20 BWO spinner and size 14 Hendrickson spinner.

Hope your project goes well.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gary", with a stylized, flowing script.

GARY BORGER

Evergreen Lake
Rd 1 - Box 282
Kunkletown, Pa. 18058
March 7, 1977

Mr. Sylvester Nemes,
10824 Hendricks,
Crown Point, Ind. 46307

Dear Mr. Nemes:

It is a long time since we encountered each other on the Matane River at the Hotel Metropole in Jasper; twenty years to be exact. The time was early July and the year 1957. You had, you told me, just come on from camping and fishing in the Laurentides Park where you found the fishing disappointing. This was a surprise to me as the fishing I had there in prior years was inordinately good, if not to say fabulous. I do not know what it is like now as I have not fished there since 1967, when it was still no trick at all to catch a half hundred trout in a days fishing. I do not think there is any really good fishing to be had adjacent to the camp grounds. The Matane River was clear but extremely high at the time we were there. Neither of us could understand the apparent barrenness of the pools adjacent to the Hotel Metropole which we fished, as the run of fish was supposed to be at its height. Finally, we learned from a native we spoke to that because of the high water the fish had found no impediment to their passage upriver, and as a consequence had

passed right through the pools without resting or having to wait for a rise in the water. I regret now that neither of us knew enough about Atlantic Salmon at the time to go upstream in search of the fish. Several years later I learned from a Salmon fisher who had had a great deal of experience on the Matane, that if we had gone upriver about five miles or so to the Price Brothers pool, which was private water but open to fishing for a fee, we would surely have gotten into some fish. Perhaps my power of recall would not be quite so good if you had not given me your card when we parted and urged me to keep in touch. and while I might have procrastinated to some extent it was fully my intention to do so. However, when I got home I found that I had misplaced your card and could only recall your name. Of course I remembered that you lived in Northern Indiana within commuting distance of Chicago where you worked, but of course that was too vague for a mailing address. If I had known your address I might have arranged to call on you when I made a trip to Wisconsin two years later.

I was delighted to see your exposition on the soft hackle wet fly in the Fly Fisherman magazine, not only because I was personally acquainted with Big Jim Leisnering but because I have been an advocate of fishing the soft hackle fly for many years. My success has been phenomenal, so much so that I rarely fish a dry fly, and

seldom have cause to use a winged wet fly. When I do, the winged fly is usually a dropper or a two fly cast, as I pin my faith on some pattern of soft wet hackle for my end fly. Streamers I simply detest and never use them.

I am sending you two soft hackle wet flies you may or may not be familiar with. One is a gray hackle with the addition of a tail of hackle fibres. I call this the "April Gray", partly in a spirit of levity, but mainly to distinguish it from the ordinary gray hackle sans tail. It is in essence a nymph; I cannot imagine what else a trout would take it for. Not only will this fly take trout consistently throughout the year but I am convinced it will take fish anywhere. The other is my version of the well known Pennsylvania pattern, the Breadcrust. It is a simple fly; the body formed of the thick butt end of the mid rib of a natural red saddle hackle. I soak the hackle stems in water to soften them, and draw them through my teeth to fatten them before winding them on the hook to form the body. They have a tendency to split, but with proper application and a modicum of persistence, success can be attained. The hackle, as in the April Gray, is a soft grizzle hackle. It is a most deadly fly and there is no way to determine just why trout take it, as it bears no resemblance to anything that trout might conceivably feed upon.

I call these two the deadly duo, and frequently fish with both these flies on my cast, using the Breadcrust as a dropper. Once, on the Solihanna, I cast a Breadcrust onto a spring fed backwater, where experience had taught me that not only fine Brook Trout lurk but also the occasional large Brown. I let the fly sink to a count of twenty, so that I could get it down to where I knew the fish were. When I thought it was deep enough I lifted up on the rod to give the fly a slow movement back to the surface. I saw the line straighten out and I struck hard. The power of the fish I hooked made me gasp, and I had a mental vision of a huge Brown trout on the end of my ladder; which a glimpse now and then of the deep, boating fish fully confirmed. After twenty minutes of brutal punishment to my $7\frac{1}{2}$ foot Paul Young Perfectionist I finally netted my prize — a six pound Carp. This was the only Carp I have ever caught on a fly, and though I have met anglers who claimed to have done so, I had always dismissed the claims as spurious and deliberate falsehoods. After my experience I am ready to believe anything. I cite this incident merely by way of proving that even carp seem to think that the Breadcrust is something to eat.

Back in 1959 the late Charles E. Rethorst (Broodhead Charlie) of Hotel Rapido fame,

presented me with a frame containing Big Jim Leisenring's flies under glass; the same frame which had long held a place of honor on the wall of the dining room in the Hotel. These flies are the identical ones that appear on the photographic plates which illustrate Jim's book, the Art of Tying the Wet Fly. I prize the frame highly of course, but have been toying with the idea of presenting it to either the Theodore Gordon Fly Fishers or the New York Angler's Club, but do not feel quite ready to relinquish it yet. It is a treasure that I feel sure would be fully appreciated and preserved by either of those two organizations.

The fact is, that although I have tied and used most of Big Jim's patterns with success, I have never, over the years, carried out my intent to make suitable copies of them to set up and preserve as a replacement for the originals should I pass them on. Surely a classic case of procrastination. As you are probably aware, some of the materials Jim used are not available to-day, but I am sure that any knowledgeable fly tier could find acceptable substitutes. At least I think I could.

Anyway, I urge you to give my two patterns a trial. If you are not agreeably surprised I shall be truly confounded. I have caught a great many wild trout in the waters north of Québec on these flies in sizes 6 and 8, and also land locked Salmon in Maine on the West Branch of the Penobscot below Ripogenus Dam.

I use the same large sizes there as I do in Québec, but once when I fished the West Branch in July I found the fish showing a marked preference for 12's and 14's. Here, in the Pocono's, where I do most of my fishing, I use sizes from 12 down to 18 and 20, with the midge sizes most effective during August.

If ever you feel the urge to sample the waters in this area, you may rest secure in the knowledge that you not only have a contact in the Pocono's, but that you will also have a base of operations as my house guest.

Right lines,

Nicholas V. Bickison

Evergreen Lake

RD 1 - Box 282

Kunkletown, Pa. 18058

April 10, 1978

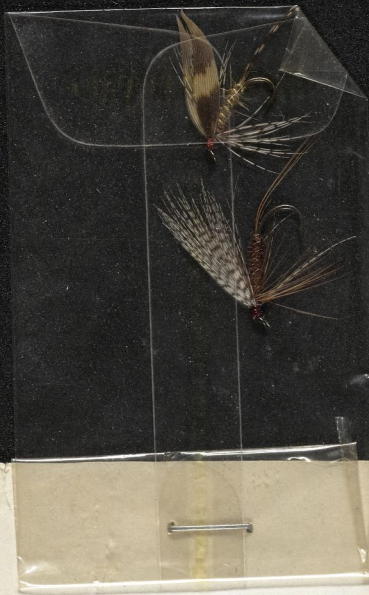
Mr. Sylvester Nemes
10824 Hendricks
Crown Point, Ind 46037

Dear Sir:

I am the fortunate possessor of a complete set of Big Jim Leisenring's flies, which were tied by the master himself, and for many years occupied a place of honor on the wall of the dining room in Charley Rethoret's Hotel Rapids at Analomink on the Brodheads Creek in Pennsylvania.

Charley presented me with these flies almost twenty years ago and I had always had it in mind to copy them but had never done so. Now, after years of procrastination, I have finally gotten around to copying the full set, so that I will still have a keepsake after donating the originals to one of the New York angling clubs. At the same time I have taken the trouble of making up a set for you also, primarily because of your apparent interest in Big Jim's work, but also because you have gained recognition as an exponent of the wet fly.

Although I fished with Big Jim only a few times, and was myself known for the excellence of my wet fly tying and technique, I was deeply impressed with his mastery of the art of fishing a wet fly. Charley Rethoret's evaluation of the man was correct, he was the best; there is no doubt about that.



Evergreen Lake

RD 1 - Box 282

Kunkletown, Pa. 18058

April 10, 1978

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10824 Hendricks
Crown Point, Ind 46037

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Although I fished with Big Jim only a few times, and was myself known for the excellence of my wet fly tying and technique, I was deeply impressed with his mastery of the art of fishing a wet fly. Charley Rethoret's evaluation of the man was correct, he was the best; there is no doubt about that.

If you have Big Jim's book, as I imagine you do, you can compare the flies in the set I made for you with the photographic illustrations between pages 68 and 69. While the similarities will be readily apparent I want to emphasize that my copies are reproductions of the actual flies, and there is in some cases a variation from the flies in the photographs. For example, while it is hard to tell from a photograph, I strongly suspect that the wings on the Great Red Spinner illustrated in his book were formed of fibres of the lemon wood duck flank feather. It certainly was not Landrail, as given in the list of dressings. In any case, the wings of the actual fly in the framed set were of hackle points just like those on the Stone fly, so I have used hackle points on my reproduction.

In the small glassine envelope you will find two of my own flies, which illustrate my own style of winging and my own patterns of March Brown and Great Red Spinner. I once caught twenty two trout on my Great Red Spinner after a self professed expert told me that; first, it was "no good" (sic); secondly, it did not look anything like a Red Spinner; and thirdly, that it would not catch any fish. So much for "experts".

I like Big Jims flies and admire the technique and workmanship involved, but when it comes to fishing I have a natural preference for my own work and my own patterns. We, each of us, have our own distinct style of tying, and it is quite natural for us to place more confidence in, and to favor our own work above that of others, even granting that it might be superior.

One more word about the set I am sending you. The little Red Spider is omitted in the photographs but is included in the set copied from the originals so that there are twenty two flies, or one more than is shown in the photographs. Of all the flies in the set the only one I do not like is the Dr. Lyte Palmer. It requires entirely too many involved procedures in the tying and the end result is hardly worth the effort. Whether or not it was a good producer as Big Jim claimed, I rather think that its inclusion in his book was in the nature of an effort to please and flatter his good friend Dr. Lyte. I have the conviction that an ordinary gray hackle wooly worm properly tied, will outfish the Dr. Lyte Palmer in spades, and I can tie a half dozen or more in the time it takes to tie a single Dr. Lyte Palmer.

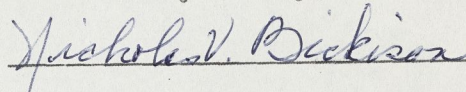
Big Jim derived virtually all of his soft hackle patterns from Roger Wooley's "Modern Trout Fly Dressing" which was published in 1932 and has been long out of print. What he did prior to Wooley I do not know but I imagine he had a group of favorite patterns for many years before he got into soft hackles. I remember he once told me that early in this century he fished almost exclusively with only two flies ---- the Dark Wing Coachman and the Gray Hackle.

Some of the exotic materials Jim used have not been available for many years, but it is possible to find suitable substitutes for them as I did. I have reproduced the flies so faithfully as to color, form, and size that I feel sure that if Big Jim were alive to see them, there is a strong likelihood he might mistake them for his own. The late Dick Clark, an accomplished fly tyer and mutual friend of Big Jim and myself, once made up a set of Big

Jim's favorite dozen which no one could ever have distinguished from the genuine.

I have rather enjoyed copying the flies and making up a set for you, so I feel amply recompensed just in knowing what I have accomplished. As with any unsolicited mail, the flies are yours to do with as you please. You can use them, frame them for show or for reference, or throw them out. It is all one to me. I recall that when I wrote to you about a year ago, I gave you an open invitation to consider me your host and guide and my home your headquarters if you ever felt you would like to explore and fish this region. Since I now find myself of a more reclusive bent, and no longer of the same temperament or persuasion, I find it necessary to withdraw the offer.

Yours vsry truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Nicholas V. Bickison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

Nicholas V. Bickison

P. S. I imagine you found my first letter overpresumptuous and quite an annoyance, and for that I apologize. This one might find you more receptive, but whether or no is of little consequence, as I doubt there will ever be any reason for me to write again; or even to want to.

Joseph Spear Beck
175 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

November 8, 1978

Mr. Sylvester Nemes
400 E. Randolph, Apt. 1724
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Nemes:

My friend, Jim Allen of the Fishermans Fly, has given me your address.

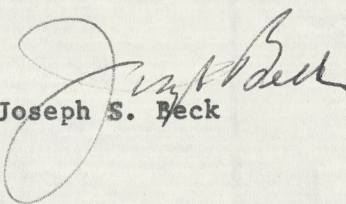
Over a year ago, I followed-up my purchase of your book by also acquiring your shadow box of flies. While I found your book describing the "Soft-Hackled Fly" very interesting, the thing that is really important to me is that with your description and photographs, I finally learned how to hand tie flies.

I have tied up a number of soft hackled flies and tried them with good success, but not outstanding. Jim thinks that he has a deviation in the way of tying the fly which makes it even more productive, and I hope to learn that way of tying.

You did a nice job with your shadow box. I would like to know how many of these shadow boxes you prepared, and is 1976 the date that this was done?

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Joseph S. Beck

JSB:ms

Pat Barnes Tackle Shop

West Yellowstone, Montana 59758

Winter Address: 829 Harrison Ave.

Helena, Montana 59601

Phone 442-3735

Area Code 406

West Yellowstone

Phone: 646-7564

Area Code 406

Apr 1974

Dear old Sky Sylvester,

I'll be in Chi as planned
and drive to Beron Springs Sat
night. However, it will be
late as if I can see you

it will be some time Sunday.

I'll leave the Chicago Air
field at 6:15 that evening

(25th).

Enclosed is a copy of Apr
issue of Fly Fisherman

I talked to Dick Finley on
adding your wish to guide

The crazy fisherman who
wonted you to teach them
the "Art of the Soft Hook" in
October and he suggested
leaving out the winter address
and adding them what ever
we could get in that space
about the Great Sealvester.

If we can figure out
something there I wont
charge you very much for
this addition. Think about
it. If I cant see you
at least I can call.

Artley.

Pat



PHIL H. BRACEWELL
NATIONAL DIRECTOR
P. O. BOX 867
CONOVER, N.C. 28613

February 13, 1976

Mr. Sylvester Nemes
10824 Hendricks Street
Crown Point, Indiana 46307

Dear Syl,

Thanks much for your autographed copy of "The Soft-Hackled Fly". Our state annual meeting will be held in May, not January.

I will be very happy to use your autographed book as a door prize.

You asked for several people who you would like to include in your book.

Several names come to mind. All are dean of trout fishermen within our state.

- (1) Mr. Cato Hollar at Marion, North Carolina
- (2) Mr. "Cap" Weise, c/o Patterson School, Lenoir, N.C.
- (3) Mr. Thomas W. Reese, P.O. Box 69, Hickory, N. C. 28601
- (4) Mr. Richard Mode, 101 Alpine Street, Morganton, N.C.
- (5) Dr. Maise Hall, Elkin, N. C.
- (6) Mr. Hugh Chatham, Elkin, N. C.
- (7) Dr. Reid Bahnson, Winston-Salem, N. C.
- (8) Dr. Alvin R. Grove, 737 S. Spark St., State College, Pa. 16801
- (9) Mr. Frank R. Richardson, U S Fishing Wildlife Service
Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225
- (10) Mr. Gerald R. Schuder, Winchester, Virginia

There are many others I can think of, but these are all top-notch men when it comes to the skill of fly fishing.

They are all personally appointed by me and I have watched them at work with the greatest amount of admiration.

Thanks again for the booklet and the sample flies, and with very best wishes,

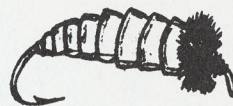
Sincerely yours,

Phil Bracewell
Phil H. Bracewell

RALEIGH BOAZE JR. _____

OUTDOOR WRITER - PHOTOGRAPHER

P.O. Box 115 Brunswick, Maryland 21716



ORIGINATOR OF "RAL'S CADDIS" a completely new dimension in fly construction

*Sylvester Nemes
10824 Hendricks
Crown Point, Ind. 46307*

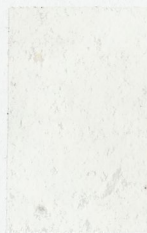
Dear Mr Nemes,

*I would like to purchase an autographed
copy of your book. Can I buy direct from you
or must I deal through the publisher.*

Please give me the details.

Thank you

Raleigh



CHARLES W. BLIVEN & CO. &



174 EAST BOSTON POST ROAD
MAMARONECK, N. Y. 10543
TELEPHONE 914-698-2100

GJN

DIVISION OF

MARINE INDUSTRIES, INC.

Yacht Brokers
MARINE INSURANCE - APPRAISALS
NAVAL ARCHITECTS

APRIL 18, 1978

Mr. SYLVESTER NEMES
THE CHATHAM PRESS
143 SOUND BEACH AVE.
OLD GREENWICH, CONN.

DEAR Mr. NEMES,

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION OF YOUR WONDERFUL BOOK, "THE SOFT-HACKLED FLY." I AM RELATIVELY NEW TO FLY FISHING (THREE SEASONS), BUT HAVE READ MOST EVERY BOOK ON THE SUBJECT I COULD GET MY HANDS ON. INVARIABLY AFTER I READ ABOUT A NEW STRATEGY OR TIED A NEW PATTERN I WOULD FEEL GREAT EXCITEMENT UPON STEPPING INTO A STREAM TO TRY IT OUT. I HAVE NEVER, HOWEVER, HAD MORE ENTHUSIASM AND EXCITEMENT AS WHEN I APPROACH A STREAM WITH SOFT-HACKLED FLY TIED TO THE END OF MY TIPPET. EVEN SCHWIBERT'S KILLER PATTERNS NEVER EVOKED SUCH ANTICIPATION! FOR THE FIRST TIME I CAN WATCH FISHERMEN WORK A STRETCH OF WATER AND THEN FIVE MINUTES LATER CATCH AND RELEASE FISH WHERE THEY FOUND NONE!

I HAVE RUN ACROSS ONE MAJOR PROBLEM THOUGH, WHEN TYING MANY OF YOUR GREAT PATTERNS. I CANNOT FIND PARTRIDGE FEATHERS ANYWHERE! IF YOU HAVE A MOMENT TO WRITE BACK I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE FOR AN ADEQUATE SUBSTITUTE. AT THE MOMENT I AM USING FEATHERS FROM A PHEASANT SKIN I RECENTLY PURCHASED SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR FLIES (PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED) I KNOW THEY CATCH FISH HOWEVER I AM NOT SURE IF THEY ARE AS GOOD AS A SUBSTITUTE YOU MIGHT SUGGEST. ALSO PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED A FLY WITH THE PHEASANT HACKLE AND A BODY DUBBING I USE. I AM SURE THAT SOMEONE ELSE HAS THOUGHT OF USING THIS PART OF THE FEATHER FOR DUBBING BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT IN A PUBLISHED PATTERN. I HAVE CAUGHT FISH WITH IT AND IT APPEARS TO HAVE ALL THE DESIRABLE PROPERTIES FOR A REALISTIC DUBBING; MOVEMENT, TRANSLUCENCE AND COLOR. I HAVE NOT EXPERIMENTED WITH IT ENOUGH TO CONCLUSIVELY SAY IT IS BETTER THAN CONVENTIONAL DUBBING, HOWEVER I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN IT AND WOULD BE INTERESTED TO HEAR YOUR COMMENTS.

CONTINUED.....

Mr. SYLVESTER NEMES

PAGE 2

APRIL 18, 1978

IN CONCLUSION I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR SHARING
YOUR WONDERFUL PATTERNS AND TECHNIQUE, AND FOR HELPING MY
GIRLFRIEND PROGRESS FROM A PESSIMISTIC AND SHAKY BEGINNING
WITH NYMPHS AND DRIES TO AN ENTHUSIASTIC NOVICE WITH THE
SOFT HACKLED FLY.

SINCERELY,

Mark Sloane

MARK SLOANE

MS:IG

MARK SLOANE
16 BROADWAY
VALHALLA, N.Y. 10595

EATON'S
CORRASABLE
BOND
USA
BERKSHIRE
COTTON FIBER CONTENT



ALASKA OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

HACKETT BENNETT

S.R. BOX 8609 • INDIAN, ALASKA 99540 • (907) 653-8412

2/12/78

Dear Mr. Nemes,

After a long search through old copies of the "Flyfisherman" I have given up on trying to find your old ad and decided to send a letter to your publisher and hope for the best.

Sir, I have your book and think it is excellent. Now what I want is a set of the patterns that you have written about so well. I remember that you ran an ad in the Flyfisherman for a while for a dozen flies for \$10, I believe. I always intended to write you about it but I champion the cause of all procrastinators.

What I am interested in are the 14 or so patterns as listed and pictured in your article in the Late Season 75 edition.

As I collect flies and frame them (and intend to frame these) it is very important that the patterns be

personally tied by you.

It seems to me that you recommended the flies in sizes #10-16. To be shown well I would want the flies in sizes no less than #10. Also in the picture in the magazine you mention the several feathers used i.e. snipe, partridge, grouse, etc. For the patterns that I hope to get from you would it also be possible to get a feather of each kind that are used in the patterns?

One last question, when framing the patterns I like to include a picture of the tier. It can be of him tying or fishing, in color or black & white as long as it is clear. Of course I will be glad to pay for the picture.

Please write and tell me if you can tie the 14 flies for me; if the feathers or hackle would also be available, the picture and the cost.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Hack Bennett

As we are moving please write

to: S.R.A Box 4015-C
Anchorage, AK 99507