

my copy

7 October 2002

Mr. Bubba Wood
8115 Sovereign Row
Dallas, Texas 75247

Dear Bubba,

I remember that sometime ago you and I talked about the possibility of your hosting a book signing for our new custom - bound version of our OF BIRDS AND TEXAS. It took us longer than anticipated to produce these special copies, but I think you will agree that they were worth the wait. The books are beautiful. On the recommendation of the Amon Carter Museum I had them bound by Raymer Bindery of Lewisville, Texas. As you can see by the copy I sent you, the Japanese silk and the quarter-binding of leather stamped with a Gentling bird drawing is really quite elegant. As a book publisher yourself, I think that you can see that I spared no expense.

With all the hoopla following the debut of Scott's portrait of President Bush and our losing battle to save our gallery from an Eminent Domain take over by the nearby osteopathic hospital, I simply have not had time to officially debut our special custom-bound books. Ramona Bass and I are planning something for late next spring at the Fort Worth Zoo, but I would like to do something in Dallas. I have no doubt that Collectors' Covey would be an ideal venue for such a Dallas debut.

I should mention that the special copies have sold well here to our regular customers at their current price of \$350. Some customers have bought ten or more! You and I both have discussed the fact that Collectors' Covey has a customer base that is ideal for our project, and I think our book can do justice to Collector's Covey as well.

Although Scott and I belong to Pillsbury and Peters Gallery, I see no problem with our working with you. In fact it might be a good idea to debut Giclee prints of selected color plates from our OF BIRDS AND TEXAS and perhaps some new works as well. We even have a few original folios left. The Giclees are simply astounding and sold quite well when we had a small "farewell" show at our gallery last summer.

We are currently remodelling another space to show our art here which ought to be very special when it is finally completed. In the meantime I really would like to have some sort of debut book signing in Dallas. Several opportunities are presenting themselves, but Scott and I would really like to do something with Collectors' Covey if you are interested.

Let me know what you think. In the meantime, Scott and I would like you to accept as a gift the copy we have sent you. It may be a gift, but it is also pay back for the wonderful books you gave me when we last got together in Dallas.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Until then, sir,

I remain . . .

Sincerely yours,

Stuart Gentling
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Fort Worth, Texas 76107

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