



## **Changes at 50 E. Broadway, Jack Dennis Sports, Jackson Hole Wyoming**

Jackson Holes News and Guide

By Paul Bruun, Jackson Hole, Wyoming

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The Jackson Town Square has been noticeably abuzz lately with news emerging from the oldest outdoor/fly shop in town. According to recent e-mails, Jack Dennis is retiring from active management and day-to-day involvement with the sporting goods, clothing, fly fishing and art gallery conglomerate that bears his name. The parent corporation will continue to be guided by key owners Ed Opler and Bill Ward.

Jack Dennis and I first met in the late 1960s in his small fly shops that migrated about town. He was guiding and tying flies commercially. With the TV exposure from Curt Gowdy's popular "American Sportsman" program and release of volume one of his Western Fly Tying Manual and eventually volume two, by the mid-1970s Jack had become an icon of Western fly fishing. He continues to produce informative DVDs and instructional fly tying, fishing and travel videos under his Snake River Books company. His works are distributed by Cabela's worldwide. Snake River float trips also will continue.

Coincidental but unrelated to Jack's announcement, Jeff Currier, the longtime manager of the outdoor shop's fishing department, gave notice that on Oct. 25 he will be heading out on his own to pursue his art, lecturing, writing and hosting exotic fly fishing trips. Currier has served customers on the Square for 23 years and is a compendium of

retail, fishing and international angling knowledge. He is the first and only American to win a medal (bronze) in international fly fishing competition while still maintaining that he'd probably rather be ice fishing for walleyes and yellow perch on a lake in Wisconsin's frozen tundra. His replacement will be Scott Sanchez.

Here's wishing Jack and Sandy and Jeff and Yvonne (Granny) the best of luck in all future endeavors.

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Paul Bruun writes weekly on his adventures and misadventures in the great outdoors.