

# FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

JANUARY 2013



*Happy New Year!*



# January Meeting

## Monday January 7, 2013 at 7 PM

Join us Monday January 7th for our first meeting of the new year. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Master Fly Tyer Captain Bill Sherer.

Captain Sherer divides his time between Boulder Junction Wisconsin and Titusville, Florida. He teaches fly fishing and fly tying throughout the country and is best know for his innovative Muskie flies. He is ranked among the top fly tyers in the world.

Bill is an IGFA Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame World Record Holder for Muskie and Walleye on the fly. He has published fly fishing and tying articles for *Fly Tyer*, *Midwest Flyfishing*, *Hunting & Fishing News* and other magazines. *Fly Fishing America* featured Captain Sherer as the Fly Fishing Muskie Magnate of Northern Wisconsin. Sherer is a past State Council Chairman of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited and a past member of the Board of Directors for the Great River Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Additionally, he is an FFF committee member dedicated to maintaining high professional standards for all demonstration fly tyers throughout the Federation.

Bill has been a full time guide for over 20 years. He holds line class world records for Walleye, Smallmouth Bass, Speckled Sea Trout, and Muskie on the fly. Additionally, he hold the All Tackle World Record, Florida State Record and Line Class World Record for Gafftop Sail Cat.

Bill is the owner of We Tie It Fly Shop, which serves northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The shop is located in Boulder Junction, "The Muskie Capital of the World." His full service fly shop has been catering to fly anglers since 1994 providing a full line of fly fishing tackle, clothing, tying supplies and gifts. He is the largest Cortland Pro-Shop in the Midwest and offers the most complete selection of fly tying materials in the Northwoods.

Bill and his wife Dawn spend their winters in Titusville, Florida where he guides from the Space Coast to Stuart. If you are interested in booking a trip with Bill in either Florida or Wisconsin you can contact him at:

**Capt. Bill Sherer**  
300 South Carpenter Road  
Titusville, FL 32796  
(715) 385-0171

wetieit@wetieit.com  
[www.wetieit.com](http://www.wetieit.com)



## First Coast Fly Fishers 2013 Officers and Board

*President*  
Ryan Curley  
[rkcurley@yahoo.com](mailto:rkcurley@yahoo.com)

*VP Programs*  
Seth Nehrke  
[programs@fcff.org](mailto:programs@fcff.org)

*VP Outings*  
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*Treasurer*  
Don Edlin

*Secretary*  
Mike Harrigan

*Membership*  
Scott Shober

*Education*  
Bart Isaac & Buddy Price

*Librarian*  
Richard Clark

*Banquet*  
Ken Nimmich

*At-Large*  
Rich Santos  
Buddy Price

*Newsletter*  
Jason C. Sheasley

FIRST COAST FLY  
FISHERS  
PO BOX 16260  
JACKSONVILLE, FL32245-6260

### On the Cover:

Capt. James Dumas with a wintertime redbfish ([www.drummancharters.com](http://www.drummancharters.com)).

Photo by Ryan Curley.

# FCFF 2013 Board of Directors

The First Coast Fly Fishers is proud to announce its 2013 Board of Directors. This year's Board of Directors has a long and varied history of fly fishing and outdoor sports.

## PRESIDENT - RYAN CURLEY

Ryan was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. His interests include chasing redfish throughout the North Florida marsh, stocking the freezer with wild meat, and long walks through the swamp. When not out fishing or hunting, he can be found behind the vice tying a wide range of fly patterns for southern and tropical gamefish.

## VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS - SETH NEHRKE

Seth grew up fishing the fresh waters of western New York in the Finger Lakes Region. The son of a Trout Unlimited Chapter founder, he learned to fly fish at a young age, and was drafted to spend many long hours "volunteering" on numerous stream improvement projects. After traveling the country and settling in Florida he became thoroughly and completely addicted to saltwater fly fishing. He has chased tarpon and snook while in South Florida, and now resides in Jacksonville where he harasses the local population of redfish. When not fishing he can be found spending time with his beautiful wife and two children. Between fishing and family he still manages to remain gainfully employed as a water resources engineer.

## VICE PRESIDENT OF OUTINGS - JEFF BIVINS

Jeff is a native of Jacksonville, Florida and began his fishing addiction, like many others, at a very young age with a cane pole and a can of worms. He has fond memories of many hours on the water with his mom and dad stalking crappie, bream and bass. In his early 20s Jeff took up inshore saltwater fishing and after his first redfish he was hooked. While attending a Florida Sportsman Show and listening to Capt. John Bottko deliver a seminar on fly fishing the flooded grass Jeff developed an interest in fly fishing. His girlfriend Tanya bought him his first fly rod as a Valentine's Day present. Since that day Jeff has never looked back. He became addicted to fly fishing so much that he ended up with a part-time job at the Salty Feather, which allowed him to learn a wealth of knowledge in a very short time from some of the best guides and captains in the area. When not fishing Jeff enjoys fly tying, camping, kayaking and spending time with

his two girls, girlfriend Tanya and their recently rescued Pit Bull Roxy.

## TREASURER - DON EDLIN

Don is a native of Jacksonville and a product of the Boys Home on University Boulevard. After eight years in the Air Force and 33 years with Burroughs/Unisis he returned to Fernandina Beach to follow his passion for fishing and to become a non-productive member of society. Don learned the waters and marshes of our area as a four-year volunteer with the RWC River Survey Team. In order to get through the winter months, Don supervises ten volunteers at two tax preparation sites in Fernandina Beach that assist the low-income and elderly with their annual tax preparation. He can generally be found walking the beach of Little Talbot Island or searching for more semi-secret fishing spots in the area.

## SECRETARY - MIKE HARRIGAN

Mike is a resident of Neptune Beach. He is a partner and manager of 210 Storage in St Johns County. A avid fisherman, he has been a member of the FCFF since 2008. He

previously served on the Board as Secretary. He counts last year's outing to Stuart in July as one of the best fly fishing experiences of his life.

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN - SCOTT SHOBER

Scott was born and raised in New Orleans, LA and was hooked (and spoiled) at an early age fishing the incredible fishers of southern Louisiana and Mississippi Gulf Coasts. Scott was primarily a saltwater bait fisherman until several years ago when he was introduced to fly fishing and now loves fly fishing the northeast Florida salt marshes from his kayak. Married with three grown kids, Scott's oldest son recently relocated, giving Scott a great excuse to visit his granddaughters and spend quality time fly fishing with his son on the trout streams of western North Carolina.

## EDUCATION CHAIRMAN - BART ISAAC

Bart is a pharmacist who is passionate about fly fishing, especially here in Florida. Work and weather permitting, he is usually out on the water chasing finned targets with a fly rod. His most favorite species to pursue are redfish, shad and bream. Bart also enjoys rod building and fly tying.

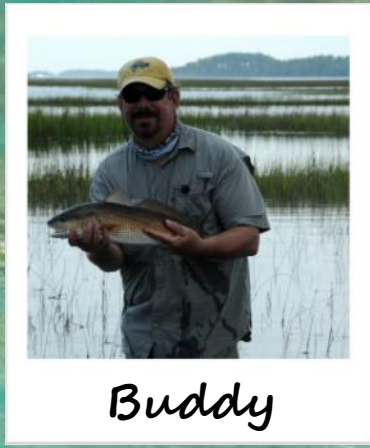


Continued on Page 4





Rich



Buddy



Seth



Bart



Ryan



Jeff



Ken



Scott



Mike



Richard





## So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish\*

After an unprecedented four years as President of the FCFF Robert Benardo is turning the reins of the Club over to Ryan Curley. We would like to thank Rob for his dedication and service to the Club. Under Rob direction, the Club provided its members with numerous opportunities to meet and learn from someone of the top names in the world of fly fishing. Additionally, members were provided with the chance to fish new as well as familiar waters in and around the First Coast. **Be sure to thank Rob for his four years of service to the Club!**

\*Apologies to Douglas Adams

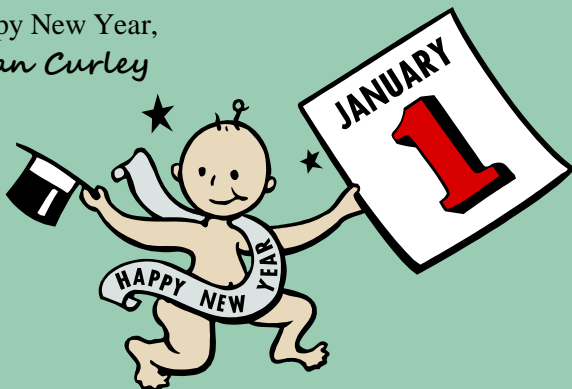
## President's Message

Welcome into 2013, I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. The holidays, for me, are a time of reflection upon the last year, and a time of re-alignment for the year to come. What were your successes in 2012, what were some failures, and finally, what are your plans in the upcoming year? I look forward to leading the club in 2013, and thank everyone for their support. Thanks especially to Rob Bernardo, who I know will continue to be a huge help.

I have seen in the last year the value that FCFF brings to the Northeast Florida area, and you should all be proud to call yourselves members. Whether you come to the club a novice, or with a solid foundation in fly fishing, there is something to be learned at each and every meeting, outing, or event. If it has been a while since you've attended a meeting, come back out and have some fun!

Whether your 2013 goal is to become a better caster, catch your first redfish on fly, or learn a new fishery, the clock is ticking, and there is only one way to make it to the finish, get out and fish....

Happy New Year,  
*Ryan Curley*



### FCFF 2013 Board of Directors

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#### BANQUET CHAIRMAN - KEN NIMMICH

Ken didn't fly fish grow up on Long Island, but he did cut his teeth on blues in Long Island Sound. During his time with the FBI in Washington D.C. he took up fly fishing for trout in the foothills of the Shenandoah Mountains. After moving to Jacksonville following his retirement, catching redfish from a kayak became his quest.

#### LIBRARIAN - RICHARD CLARK

Richard is a life-long resident of the Jacksonville area. He is President of Clark Pest Control, Inc. a long-established family business in Jacksonville. When he is not eradicating north Florida of pests and bugs he can be found fishing with his wife.

#### AT-LARGE - BUDDY PRICE

Buddy has been a life-long fly fisherman. He has been a member of the First Coast Fly Fishers since moving to the Jacksonville-area in 2008. His interest in fly tying was the catalyst for his YouTube Channel FlyFish Video ([www.youtube.com/user/flyfishvideo](http://www.youtube.com/user/flyfishvideo)) where you will find over 100 fly tying videos of some of the best known fly tyers in the country all filmed by Buddy.

#### AT-LARGE - RICH SANTOS

Rich was born in New York City and raised in the Bronx. His passion for fly fishing began approximately 25 years ago on the rocky north shore beaches from Smithtown Bay to Montauk where he fished for striped bass, bluefish, bonito and false albacore. He was a founding member of the Eastern Fly Rodders of Long Island. His is a 15-year resident of Florida, first living in Broward County, then moving to Jacksonville. While in south Florida he was the fly tying director for the South Florida Fly Fishing Club. In 2007 and 2008, Rich secured the 1st Place Best Fly Fisherman Award in the JaxKayak Fishing Classic tournament. He is a USCG licensed Captain and a Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Casting Instructor.

# BIG DAY FOR A LITTLE FISH

ASMFC takes first step to finally bring menhaden under management

**BALTIMORE, MD** – For the first time ever, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) will reduce the harvest of menhaden and finally begin the process of managing this critical forage base. The measure approved today by the Menhaden Management Board will reduce menhaden harvest in both the reduction and bait fisheries by 20 percent beginning in 2013.

“Coastal Conservation Association has been fighting this fight for 20 years as Atlantic menhaden have always been one of the most important species in the ocean to anglers,” said Richen Brame, Atlantic States fisheries director for CCA “The action taken today is an historical victory for recreational anglers, conservation-minded citizens and the most important fish in the sea – menhaden. For the first time ever, the Atlantic menhaden fishery is finally being managed. The key in today’s action is that the ASMFC made a decision to manage menhaden as part of an ecosystem rather than solely as a food fish. This philosophy is a major step forward for improving the marine ecosystem for anglers from Maine to Florida.”

The 20 percent reduction is far less than many recreational anglers would have preferred, but even that reduction in harvest was in doubt as Omega Protein, the only remaining company engaged in the menhaden reduction industry, brought enormous political pressure to bear on the management process.

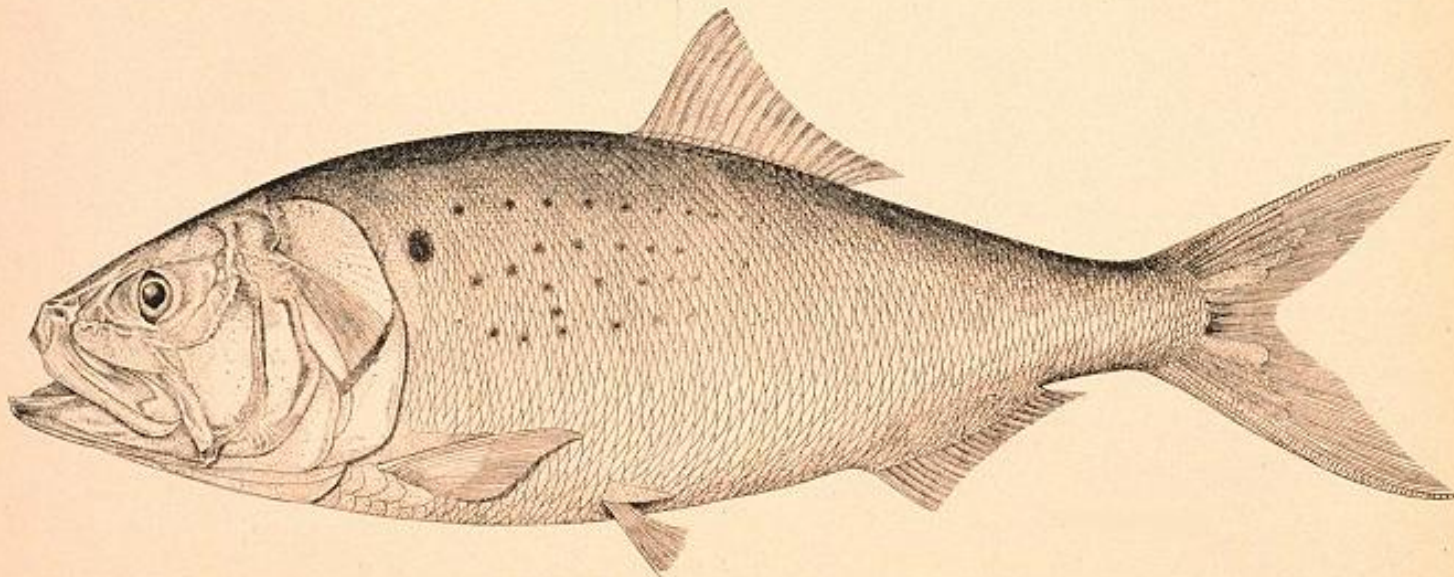
“We would have liked to see a greater reduction to ensure the health of the stock, but it is important to keep an eye on the larger picture,” said Brame. “Throughout its history, menhaden were managed by a process dominated by industry solely for its own use and profit. Today’s action marks a sea-change in how this fishery is perceived and how it will be managed going forward. That is the real victory. Our work is not done, but we finally have the arena to manage menhaden for what it is – a critical forage base. Hopefully, this clears the way for further reductions in harvest.”

The latest menhaden stock assessment showed the stock was undergoing overfishing and abundance estimates were at the lowest level ever recorded. Current science indicates that the menhaden spawning stock biomass is at about 9 percent of a stock that is not subjected to any fishing pressure. The 20 percent reduction in harvest is an interim measure that will be in place until the results of the next benchmark stock assessment are known in 2014.

“The Board took interim steps today to protect this important stock while we await better scientific advice from a new stock assessment,” said Brame. “The picture is constantly evolving, and we appreciate that the Menhaden Management Board took steps now to finally begin rebuilding menhaden.”

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Originally printed by the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) on December 15, 2012 (<http://joincca.org/articles/595>).



Atlantic Menhaden, *Brevoortia tyrannus*



**February 16  
6:00 PM**

**FCFF**

# Annual Banquet

The 2013 First Coast Fly Fishers Annual Banquet is scheduled for **Saturday, February 16, 2013**. The banquet will be held at the Southpoint Marriott at Butler Boulevard and I-95. Our Guest Speaker will be **Dr. Aaron Adams**.

Dr. Adams holds Master's and Ph.D. degrees in marine and environmental science, in addition to a Captain's license, and has studied marine fish ecology throughout his professional career. He is Director of Operations for [Bonefish & Tarpon Trust](#), as well as a Senior Scientist at Mote Marine Laboratory. In addition to his duties as Director, he also continues his research interests, typically in these topics: juvenile habitat identification; juvenile survival, diet, and movements; impacts of human-caused habitat alterations; juvenile-to-adult life stage connections; adult movement patterns; age and growth. He also invests considerable effort translating fish ecology into layman's terms so that it can be better applied to conservation. He is author of 'Fisherman's Coast', wrote four chapters for Chico Fernandez's 'Fly-Fishing for Bonefish', has written numerous articles for fly fishing magazines, and has given many seminars on fish ecology for anglers in numerous venues. He is also



an avid fly angler.

Banquet Chairman Ken Nimmich is in the process of finalizing the details of the banquet. Details will be available at the December meeting. If you would like to volunteer to help Ken with the banquet email him at [knimmich@comcast.net](mailto:knimmich@comcast.net).

## Banquet Raffle

This year's banquet will include several thousand dollars in fly fishing auction and raffle items; including fly rods, reels, guide trips and fly fishing art work and other fly fishing essentials. More items are being added every week. Raffle tickets are \$5 a piece, and five for \$20.

## Grand Prize Drawing

The Grand Prize Raffle this year is for a new Tibor Back Country Wide Reel. (a \$500 value). Memberships paid in full by the February 1, 2010 meeting will receive a Grand Prize Raffle ticket. One Grand Prize Raffle ticket per membership (family).

## For More Information...

For more information contact Banquet Director Ken Nimmich at [knimmich@comcast.net](mailto:knimmich@comcast.net) or Ryan Curley at [rkcurely@yahoo.com](mailto:rkcurely@yahoo.com). Additional information is also available on our web site - [www.fcff.org](http://www.fcff.org)



**T**  
**TIBOR REELS**  
The World's Finest Fly Reels

# Simple Shad Dart

By Craig Crumbliss

*Editors Note: In another month, the Shad will be making their way up the St. Johns River. Now is the time to get ready and tie up a mess of flies. So, we turn to the December 2012 issue of the On the Fly newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers for the month's tying feature.*

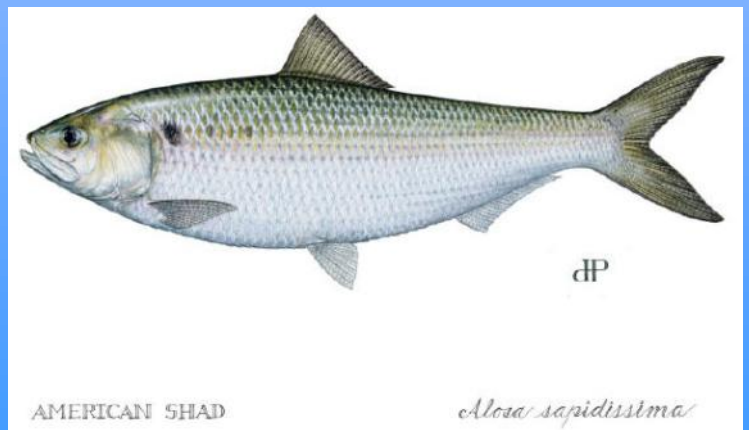
This is my go-to fly for the St Johns River shad run. Creativity is key; use a variety of colors and weights. I'll often have the same pattern with bead chain and dumb-bell eyes. Remember to keep your patterns relatively small; size 6 and 8 are best. I'll also have a few in sizes 4 and 10. Some of my favorite colors to include are: chartreuse, pink, pearl, silver, yellow and red. A variety of patterns will work but most are based around several basic patterns such as the Woolly Bugger, Clouser Minnow, Gotcha and Crazy Charlie.

## Materials

Hook:	Mustad 3366 Sizes 4 to 8
Thread:	140 Denier Flat Waxed
Tail:	Pearl Flashabou
Body:	Vinyl Ribbing
Eyes:	Silver Bead Chain
Head:	Antron Dubbing or Uni-Yarn

## Tying Instructions

1. Start a layer of thread from the hook eye to the start of the bend.
2. Tie in your Flashabou tail. Remember to keep it short as the Shad will nip the longer tails.
3. Tie the bead chain or dumb-bell eyes behind the eye of the hook and remember to give yourself some space for the head.
4. Tie in the vinyl ribbing behind the eyes and wind it all the way down the shank to the tail. Move your thread back towards the eye. Wrap the vinyl rib all the way up to the eyes and tie it off.
5. Tie in a piece of Uni-Yarn to wrap around the eyes to form a dubbed head. You can also use any other type of shaggy dubbing to get the same effect.
6. Whip finish behind the eye of the hook.





# FCFF HATS

First Coast Fly Fishers hats are coming! Members who have paid their 2013 membership by **February 1st**, will receive one free FCFF hat. (One free hat per membership, additional hats will be available for purchase). These hats are high quality, 100 % cotton, six panel soft brushed/washed khaki canvas embroidered with club logo. One size fits all with adjustable strap and brass buckle closure.



These fine hats will be available for sale after February 1, 2013 at a cost of \$20 per hat. Contact Scott Shoher at [sdshober@gmail.com](mailto:sdshober@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Survey Shows Outdoor Recreation is Important to Florida's Residents and Visitors.

TALLAHASSEE - The Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Florida Park Service today announced the results of the [2011 Florida Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey](#). The study, which measured the satisfaction of Florida's residents and visitors with current recreation opportunities in Florida and determined levels of participation for outdoor recreation activities, found that outdoor recreation is important to 98 percent of tourists and 96 percent of residents.

"This study is a great tool for Florida's outdoor recreation providers, and will help us ensure that we are in tune with the recreational needs of the state's citizens and visitors," said DEP's Florida Park Service Director Donald V. Forgone. "Outdoor recreation is not only a major contributor to Florida's economy, but also educates and cultivates the next generation of envi-



ronmental stewards."

Responsive Management, a survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues, surveyed nearly 4,000 Florida residents and nearly 3,000 tourists between April and October 2011 by telephone. Of the tourists surveyed, 97 percent said they were satisfied with the outdoor recreation opportunities in Florida, including 77 percent who are very satisfied. The majority of Florida residents (80 percent) are satisfied with the outdoor recreation opportunities in their county.

Nearly all participants (99 percent of residents and 96 percent of tourists) noted that spending time with family and friends is an important factor for participating in outdoor recreation .

Saltwater beach activities were the most popular among all participants—63 percent of residents and 49 percent of visitors enjoyed this activity in the past 12 months. The next most popular activity among Florida residents was wildlife viewing, which 49 percent enjoyed in the last year. Forty-six percent went fishing, 44 percent enjoyed bicycling and 40 percent enjoyed a picnic outdoors in the last year. Forty-seven percent of tourists enjoyed wildlife viewing last year, followed by 37 percent who enjoyed picnicking, 29 percent of visitors who went swimming in public outdoor pools and 26 percent of tourists who visited historical or archaeological sites.

The Florida Park Service is not only one of Florida's leading outdoor recreation providers with 160 state parks, the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway and eight state trails, but is also responsible for developing and executing a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, in cooperation with other public recreation land managers, including and state and local recreation providers. This survey will be used to evaluate the supply, demand and need for outdoor recreation for the 2013 update of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan ([SCORP](#)).

By contributing to the quality of life for residents and the state's desirability as a tourist destination, outdoor recreation in Florida stimulates the economy and creates jobs. Florida's outdoor recreation program provides a diverse system of resources, facilities and programs. The 2011 Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey confirms that outdoor recreation opportunities are very important to Florida's residents and tourists. View the complete survey [HERE](#).



Fellow First Coast FlyFishers -

Just a reminder that our 2013 membership drive is continuing, and will be collecting membership dues for 2013 at next Monday night's meeting, January 7th.

Dues remain at \$100, and as you may have noted in the December newsletter, each paid membership includes a FCFE embroidered logo hat! We will have hats available for anyone who pays their 2013 dues before February 1st. Attached is a membership form, which we ask you to sign the release and fill out with any updated contact information, ie. email, phone numbers, etc. so that we can update the membership database. If you are confident that we have correct information, feel free to just fill out your name and sign the release !

If you would like, you can mail your application\* with your check to:

FCFF  
PO Box 16260  
Jacksonville, FL 32245-6260

There will also be sign up sheets for this years banquet in February at Monday's meeting. The banquet cost will remain at \$35.00, and we will be collecting money for anyone that wants to go ahead and sign up for the banquet as well.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask !

Thanks,

*Scott Shober*  
Membership

\*You can download your membership application here: <http://www.fcff.org/pdf/2009%20Membership%20Application-%20Automated.pdf>



**ORDER NOW**

# FCFF SHIRTS



**FRONT**



**BACK**

**T**he perfect gift for the fly fisher in your life!

Sport Tek, 100% polyester Dri Mesh Performance long sleeve shirts are now available for \$30 a piece. These shirts come in a variety of colors with an image of a Clouser Minnow and "The tug is the drug" on the left front breast and the FCFF logo on the back.

The Club hopes to be able to offer button-down shirts in the near future. More information about these shirts should be available at the September meeting.

If you are interesting in purchasing one of these performance shirts so that you can be the envy of the grass flats, contact Don Edlin by phone **904-261-4065**, or by email [dpedlin@comcast.net](mailto:dpedlin@comcast.net). When ordering, Don will need to know your shirt size and the color you want.

When you place your order, be sure to thank Don for coordinating everything.



*This Shirt is Guaranteed to  
Catch Fish!*



# In 2013 be sure support these fine businesses who support our Club all year long!

