

# FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

APRIL 2017



*Educating, Restoring, Conserving through Fly Fishing*

**FCFF Meeting**  
**7<sup>PM</sup> April 3, 2017 - Southpoint Marriott**

**Offshore Kayak Fishing**  
**Presented By**  
**Pam Wirth**  
**Professional Kayak Angler**

**P**am Wirth spend over 15 years in the mortgage and banking business before coming a professional kayak angler. A native of Tampa, Pam routinely fishes and participates in tournaments all across the Site. Her sponsors include: Native Water Craft, YakAttach, Cajun Custom Rods, Ohero Braid, Diawa and Fishbrain. Whether offshore chasing sailfish or fishing the flats of Tampa for redfish, you can be sure she is always up for the challenge of a tight line. When she is not fishing, she can be found at Tampa Fishing Outfitters, where she works as an Angler Assistant.



Some of her accomplishments include a third place finish overall in the Extreme Sailfish Tournament. She has the distinction of bring the first angler to ever land two sailfish during an Extreme Kayak Tournament. Additionally, she has two top lady angler wins during the Extreme Kayak Fishing Tournaments and a first place win in the Battle of the Pass. Pam won Top Lady Angler honors at the Calusa Bluewater Tournament and Kayak Wars South Florida and South-East Divisions.

Please join the First Coast Fly Fishers this month as Pam discusses the thrills of Kayak Angling. Pam will begin her presentation by discussing the proper setup for offshore angling. She will then discuss techniques for targeting sailfish from a kayak. The second half of the seminar she will discuss the beauty of fishing the flats from a kayak and where to fish for redfish along the west coast of Florida. Regardless of whether you are looking to get started into kayak fishing or an experienced kayak angler, you are sure to enjoy Pam's presentation.

Now that we have the benefit of daylight savings time, bring your rod and come early to the meeting for free casting lessons.

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**On the Cover:**  
**Grey Ghost**  
**Photograph by Mike Edgerly**

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# It's Not You, Saltwater Casting Really is Different

By Capt. Pete Greenan, St Petersburg, Florida

**S**altwater fishing, regardless of the location, presents a series of problems that require specialized casts. These are often overlooked by instructors from venues not associated with the salt. Knowing how to teach them and when they are needed requires only a little information. Below are some of the problems encountered.

**Wind** – it is unfortunate that the wind direction and speed are often working against the saltwater caster. An instructor needs only to remember the several wind casts we already know well. The key to the application for these casts is power. The larger rods used in the salt help a great deal, but the caster still needs to learn to apply enough energy to create a good turn-over in either direction. Driving the backcast into a strong wind dictates a longer, stronger translation and a powerful rotation. The devil in this is to not over rotate the backcast. The trajectory of a cast into the wind is critical; I teach a downward trajectory into a head wind. The same is true for the backcast. Power, speed and targetting handle the presentation effectively.

**Timing** – the timing of the presentation is important. Often saltwater species give us only a short window to get the fly into the right place. It helps if the angler can reduce the number of false casts, thereby taking advantage of the correct presentation. Many saltwater fish move at up to five feet per second when cruising and often turn unexpectedly. Being on target in as little as three seconds can mean the difference between a spooked fish and a great battle. To teach this technique,

start with 60 feet of line off the reel and 30 feet out of the rod tip. Make a standard smooth backcast and on the forward cast slip about 10 feet of line. Continue to the next backcast without slipping line and then shoot on the forward cast.

When holding the line while looking for fish I teach anglers to start with an aerial roll cast before starting their backcast. I encourage casters to not slip much line in the backcast because it releases the tension on the rod at a critical point often causing loss of power.

**Distance** – Saltwater fly fishers often cast 60 or more feet of line. Although this is not always necessary, it is a huge asset when dealing with shallow, clear water. Here the double haul is important. Essentially, the hauls will help speed up the cast and make for more effective loading. Because speed is usually a component of power, distances become more achievable.

Beyond the basics, teaching the haul warrants close inspection. The alignment of the hauls with the rod shaft is one key element because it gives maximum pull length for the least effort. Another aspect of the hauls needed in all casting, salt or fresh, is the smooth, slack-free line control. Allowing slack at any time reduces rod bend and, therefore, power. I always make sure my students use the full length of the possible stroke when double hauling.

**Line flash** – many anglers enjoy sight casting to saltwater species. False casting in the vertical plane will often spook shallow water fish. The angler needs to be able to lower the plane of the cast to prevent the fish from seeing the line in the air. Casting in the horizontal plane is the answer. By casting this way the angler can keep the fly line out of the fish's cone of vision allowing only the leader to enter into the strike zone. Surf casters have a disadvantage here because they are often launching long casts over breaking waves. To solve this most have resolved to use a fly line color that matches the sky color as much as possible.

**Leaders** – it is not unusual to cast 1/0 weighted flies with 15 foot leaders. Leader design is critical. Butt diameter is normally about 80% of the fly line tip and, hopefully, suppleness should be closely matched to the fly line. I have found through experience and speaking



*Kevin Becker Photograph*



with well-informed anglers that a very long butt section can be a tremendous advantage in turning over heavy flies. This, followed by a moderate step-down to the tippet will insure a good presentation. When the fly is collapsing at turn-over, shortening the leader often solves the problem. Kicking is solved by adding a longer or lighter tippet.

**Bigger rods** – rods from 9 wt. to 12 wt. need more power to cast well. Although you can make slow, easy casts with a big rod, fishing is a different story. The casts must be quick and accurate. Good salters conserve their energy so they can fish all day without tiring.

Constantly blind casting with a 12wt. will wear you out in an hour or less. Cast only when you have a target, a fish or location that holds fish. Practice with the rod you will be using in the salt. If you are traveling to a destination, poor casting can be extremely frustrating and can ruin a trip of a lifetime.

**Hooking up** – Teaching the strip strike. It is frustrating to lose a good fish because the hook was not set tight. Saltwater anglers use the “strip-strike” to get tight to the fish. It is amazingly simple. Capt. Jamie Allen, CI from Boca Grande, Fl., says simply separate your hands. He means if you move your left and right hands apart quickly, you have affected a strip-strike. Eric Cook, MCI from Atlanta area, at a CE event in Florida demonstrated the loss of pulling power as the rod moved away from a straight pull; from about 14 lbs. pressure when pulled with no rod bend to about 1 lb. when pulled at 90 degrees to the fish. I teach anglers to keep the rod in the horizontal plane with only the butt section under load unless there is an obstruction to deal with. Fighting big fish, like tuna and tarpon, is quicker and more successful this way.

**Weather** – everyone has trouble with weather. Fishing a river with ice in your guides and 15 knot winds is tough, but standing on a tossing boat deck in 95 degrees with 95% humidity is no picnic. Having 45 degree water crashing over your waders while you are trying to stand and cast is something else altogether. Surf casters have to fight for footing constantly as the water washes the sand away from their feet. For the tropics the angler needs cool clothing that covers them as much as possible, wide brim hats and sunscreen with no oil in it. We all need good sun glasses, amber for the back-country and grey for off shore. Drink lots of water and don't drink much the night before. Eat, we have ways of making you!

**Changing your mind** – Teaching the student to get into the game. Getting casters enthused about fishing salt-

water means changing their mind-set. I try to get them to think tougher, think stronger, think faster and be more aggressive. I use analogies that make them more alert, daring and expansive. I want them to know they can hook and land a 100 lb. fish. I want them to challenge themselves to make an extraordinary cast to a once-in-a-lifetime fish.

Saltwater flyfishing can be as euphoric as watching the rolling sea break over a pristine beach or scanning a crystal clear flat for cruising fish and all are punctuated by periods of hysteria. I want anglers to feel like they can be on the cover of *Saltwater Sportsman*.

### *Fish Hard*

*Capt. Pete Greenan is is an IFFF certified master fly casting instructor who lives in St Pete. He is one of the longest working fly fishing charter captains in Florida. Contact him at [www.floridaflyfishing.com](http://www.floridaflyfishing.com)*



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# Twenty Questions With... Paul Hutchins, FCFE Secretary

**1. Where are you originally from and how long have you lived in Northeast Florida?**

*I was born in Jacksonville and lived Orlando for 4 years. That makes 63 years.*

**2. What is your job/profession?**

*Engineer in Energy Management at RS&H, an architectural/engineering/planning firm in town. Been there 37 years.*

**3. Tell us a little something about your family.**

*My lovely wife of 44 years, and counting, is Leslie. I have two fantastic children Christopher and Kathryn. Christopher's lovely wife is Dawn and Kathryn's manly husband is Matt Kerley. I have two awesome granddaughters, Gabby (Christopher and Dawn) and Madelyn (Kathryn and Matt). Madelyn is our daughter's first and is 6 months old.*

**4. How long have you been fly fishing?**

*The first time I tried fly fishing I was in high school. Then do much with it until I joined the FCFE about 10 years ago.*

**5. Who are your heroes or who do you admire most?**

*My all-time favorite athlete is Arnold Palmer. Today I admire the amazing entrepreneurs/visionaries. Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Thomas Edison, Shad Khan, Winston Churchill.*

**6. Where is your favorite place to fish?**

*The Keys are magical. Bonefish, Tarpon, Snook, Redfish.*

**7. With what person (living or dead) would you like to spend a day on the water?**

*Of course, my Father. He loved to fish and taught me everything. If we could have a third it would be Ted Williams. He was my Dad's favorite players and mine too. He was a gifted athlete and accomplished fly fisher-*

*man, especially for Tarpon in the Keys.*

**8. Aside from the obvious (rod, reel and flies) what piece of fly fishing gear do you consider essential to have with you on the water?**

*A good pair of sunglasses.*







**9. What is your "go-to" fly?**

*I love fishing top water poppers.*

**10. What is your favorite fish to catch on a fly rod?**

*So far, bonefish, but I've never caught a tarpon.*

**11. If you wrote an autobiography, what would the title be?**

*"I'll Never Stop Learning and Having Fun Doing It"*

**12. What is the last book you read?**

*Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates by Brian Kilmeade. My favorite books so far: Shogun by James Clavell; Guns, Germs and Steel by Jared Diamond; Undaunted Courage, by Stephen Ambrose and The Map that Changed the World by Simon Winchester. I love historical novels.*

**13. What is on your iPod (ie what kind of music do you listen to)?**

*I use Pandora and I'm prejudiced toward the ladies: Classical: Sarah Brightman (of Phantom, but I enjoy any-*

*thing she sings), Country /Pop: Kelly Clarkson, Taylor Swift, Indie: Cranberries and lately Inspirational: Lauren Daigle*

**14. How many fly rods do you own?**

*Six – One was my Dad's that I used in my teens.*

**15. What is your favorite guilty pleasure?**

*Chocolate anything, but my favorite is a chocolate milkshake.*



**16. What is your idea of a perfect day on the water?**

*Fishing with my son, helping/watching him catch a bunch and one for me too.*

**17. Which talent or skill would you most like to have?**

*A photographic memory, so I would never forget anything. Discipline to be organized is another.*

**18. If you could travel back in time, what year would you visit and why?**



1959, Thanksgiving, Weirsdale, Florida. Now that I am so interested in my Ancestry, it would be super cool to travel back to one of our family reunions we used to have at Thanksgiving in Central Florida with my mother's family. I could listen to all the stories about their parents and grandparents and why they chose where they live and their occupations.

**19. What is your most treasured possession?**

*My family. Grandkids are such a wonderful gift.*

**20. What was the most significant moment of your life thus far?**

*It's really two moments, but the birth of each of my children's first child. If you're fortunate to have children, you spend a large percentage of your life teaching them*

*how to prosper and thrive. Seeing them to show love and care to their own children is, as they say, priceless.*

**Bonus Question #1: If you could spend a week fishing anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

*If the photographs in Fly-Fishing Day Dreams are even close to what it is like there, Seychelles Islands.*





# Short Casts

- ✦ A well worn hat is de rigeur for any fly fisherman. Aside from functionality, a hat says more about the person and the places they have been than any piece of kit in their tackle bag. Patagonia's short video *The Stories we Wear* says it all: <https://youtu.be/J94RWjLT5iE>
- ✦ Oscar Wilde once said, "experience is simply the name we give our mistakes." On the water, the smallest mistake has a way of magnifying itself. The folks at Orvis recently posed the following question to several fly fishing guides: "What is the single most common mistake you see your clients make, and what can I do to avoid it?" You can find their answers here: <http://www.orvis.com/news/fly-fishing/ask-experts-common-fly-fishing-mistake/>
- ✦ Last year, you may recall, the Bahamian government considered making significant changes to the country's fishing regulations that would essentially eliminate do-it-yourself bonefishing and dictate who can and can not be a bonefishing guide. Thankfully, the draconian regulations never came to be. Instead, the government devised a more equitable approach to regulating and managing the fishery. Nevertheless, the future of bonefishing in the Bahamas is uncertain. The film *Ghost Stories* by World Angling seeks to document this change. You can check out the trailer here: <https://vimeo.com/206704105>
- ✦ Legendary guide Sandy Moret has been a fixture in the Florida Keys since the 1970s. He has witnessed the Keys change from being a haven for adventurers, hippies and outlaws to an over-populated tourist destination. Few can attest to the massive habitat destruction that came along with this change. According to Sandy, the biggest threat to the Florida Keys fishery is current water quality problems brought on by the mismanagement of the Everglades. Gink and Gasoline has his story here: <http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/saltwater-fly-fishing/peanut-bonefish-shifting-baselines-and-floridas-water-crisis/>
- ✦ Fish like structure. Some of the most difficult fishing is done in and around structure. Florida Sportsman magazine has some pointers on how to avoid being broken off or even worse, breaking your rod, when fly fishing in and around structure: <http://www.floridasportsman.com/2017/03/03/fly-fishing-around-structure/>

## The First Coast Fly Fishers Big Year Fly Fishing Challenge



Spring is here, the waters are warming and the fish are becoming increasingly active. It is a perfect time to get on the water and participate in the First Cost Fly Fishers Big Year Fly Fishing Challenge. So get on the water, catch some fish and join the Challenge.

Thus far, anglers have caught 18 different species of fish. Fourteen of the species are freshwater fish and include: hickory shad, bluegill, crappie, filer, largemouth bass, needlefish, redbreast sunfish, sailfin catfish, warrmouth, striped bass, golden shiner, brown hoplo, stumpknocker, and redear sunfish. The saltwater species caught to date include: bluefish, redfish, seatrout, and ladyfish.

To participate in the Challenge, which is open to all FCFF Members, all you have to do is send a picture of your catch to the Editor ([fcffnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:fcffnewsletter@gmail.com)). See the January 2017 newsletter for a complete set of rules.



**Capt. David Borries'**  
**Backwater Fishing**  
**Adventures**

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# AMFF to Honor Thomas McGuane with 2017 Heritage Award

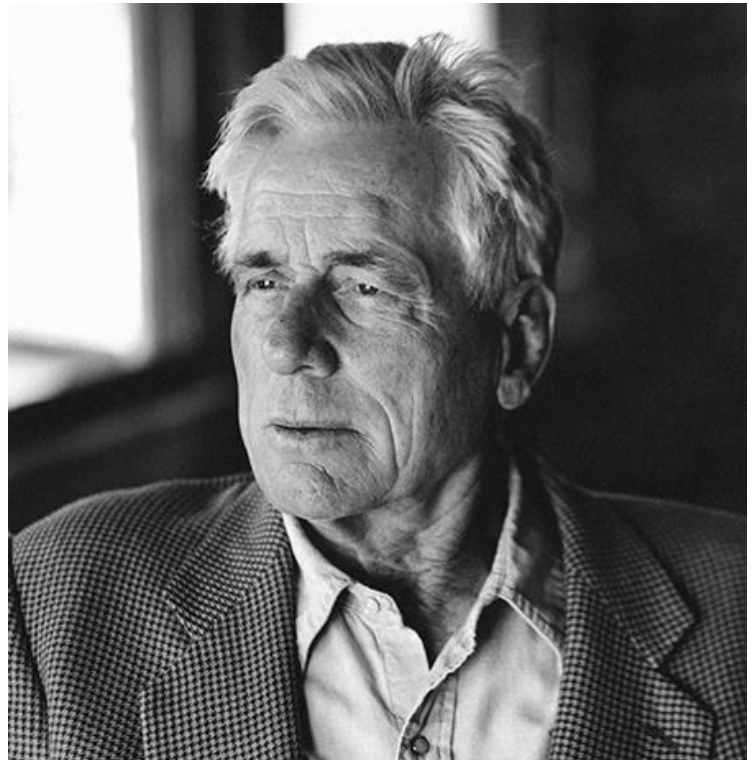
“Thomas McGuane writes better about fishing than anyone else in the history of mankind.”—Jim Harrison

**Manchester, Vermont (March 13, 2017)** – The American Museum of Fly Fishing announced today that it will honor influential author Thomas McGuane with its 2017 Heritage Award. The celebration will take place on April 5 at a public reception held at the Racquet & Tennis Club of New York City. The event committee will be chaired by Bruce McNae.

The 2016 Heritage Award event will begin with a Leadership Circle cocktail reception at 5:30 in the evening and a general reception at 6:15. During cocktail hour there will be an array of interesting silent auction items for guests to bid on, including travel packages, fly rods, fly reels, and much more. At 7 p.m. dinner and a live auction led by Nick Dawes will take place, immediately followed by the awards presentation. Guests will then be treated to a special interview between our honoree and his good friend and 2014 Heritage Award recipient, Tom Brokaw.

Thomas McGuane has built an impressive literary career, from humble beginnings as the “Humor Editor” at his high school newspaper, *The Crane*, to becoming one of the most accomplished and diversely talented authors of our generation. He gained acclaim by deftly exploring the depths of human relationships and bringing a decidedly local feel to all of his writing. Whether the context is set in Michigan, the Florida Keys, or the plains of Montana, he deeply understands the environs in which his characters live.

The author of over a dozen novels, screen plays, and short stories, his novel, *The Bushwhacked Piano*, won the Rosenthal Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1971 and his novel, *Ninety-Two in the Shade* was nominated for a National Book Award in 1974. He is also the recipient of the 2009 Wallace Stegner Award, courtesy of the Center of the American West, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts & Letters. An avid outdoorsman who has both won *Fly Rod & Reel Magazine’s* 2010 Angler of the Year and been inducted into the Cutting Horse Hall of Fame (2005), McGuane infuses his works with a rich appreciation of the natural world.



Karen Kaplan, the President of the Board of Trustees, shared her excitement in the announcement saying “Thomas McGuane elevated the field of writing about fishing to new heights with the publication of *The Longest Silence* in 1999. We are delighted to recognize not only his immense contributions to literature, but also to recognize him as a world class angler and conservationist.”

To purchase tickets to this event please visit <http://www.amff.org/april-5-2017-heritage-award-honoring-tom-mcguane/> or contact Samantha Pitcher [spitcher@amff.org](mailto:spitcher@amff.org).

## About the American Museum of Fly Fishing:

The American Museum of Fly Fishing is the steward of the history, traditions, and practices of the sport of fly-fishing and promotes the conservation of its waters. The Museum collects, preserves, exhibits, studies, and interprets the artifacts, art, and literature of the sport and, through a variety of outreach platforms, uses these resources to engage, educate, and benefit all. The Museum fulfills this mission through our public programs (including exhibitions, gallery programs, lectures, special events, and presentations), our publications, and our quarterly journal, [\*The American Fly Fisher\*](#).

For more information about the Museum and the 2017 Heritage Award please visit our website <http://www.amff.org> or connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).





# Letters to the Editor

Dear FCFF Editor,

*I've been freshwater and saltwater fishing my entire 57 year life, but have virtually no fly fishing experience.*

*Could you please explain to me the 'lure' of a sport which by my account is propagated by a bunch of over-zealous fishing snobs with fancy high priced gear and an arguably minimum return on your efforts and expenditures.*

*And good luck trying to fish with a spinning reel, while in a canoe with a fly fisher. It is nightmarish.*

Respectfully,  
Bill L.

*The Union County Curmudgeon*

Dear Bill,

Sporting literature is replete with works by writers far more talented than I, who have extolled the virtues and lure of fly fishing in lucid and inspiring prose. Far be it for me to speak for them or anyone else who picks up a fly rod. I can only speak for myself.

There are certainly easier, productive and far more economical ways to catch fish than with a fly rod. Maybe it is my Presbyterian upbringing, but I am loath do things the easy way, often to my own detriment. Fishing is no different. It is my moral obligation to give the target of my quarry every advantage. Anything less would be an abomination.

Anyone who can throw a rock can catch a fish with conventional tackle and bait. Fly fishing doesn't come easy. It requires practice, patients and a basic understanding of physics and biology. The satisfaction of catching a fish with a fly rod far surpasses any that is granted using traditional tackle. Our joy is in knowing

that the perfect combination of stealth, physics and hydrology came together to entice the instincts of a particular fish that a clump of hair, feathers and flash is sustenance. It is a close to perfection one can encounter here on Earth without having a religious experience. Fly fishing isn't a religion. However, it is the closest I've gotten to God without a Bible in hand.

I fly fish because every time I feel the worn cork handle of a fly rod in my hand I am reminded of my grandfathers. For me a fly rod is a time machine that transports me 40 years back in time to the spring creeks of central Pennsylvania and the warm summer days I spent fishing with them.

To quote Robert Traver, I fly fish because "*bourbon out of an old tin cup always tastes better out there.*" I know you can relate to that seeing as how you drank more than half of my whiskey during our last river trip.

I fly fish because every moment I spend on the water I learn something new. John Gierach said it best, "*... fly-fishing is a continuous process that you learn to love for its own sake. Those who fish already get it, and those who don't couldn't care less, so don't waste your breath on someone who doesn't fish.*"

Regards,  
The Editor

P.S. As far as fishing with you in your canoe is concerned, I suppose it would be nightmarish to have a fly fisherman out-fish you. If you would like to learn how to fly fish just ask. I will be more than happy to teach you what I know.

Send your questions or comments to the Editor at [FCFFNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:FCFFNewsletter@gmail.com)



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# #NOWORNEVERGLADES

#NowOrNeverglades is the unifying voice of Floridians and visitors, local, state and national elected officials, families, boat captains, fishermen and environmental conservation groups, Republicans and Democrats, and businesses – small and large – who have come together to save America's Everglades and Florida's water.

“Before you vote, look at what nature is showing you, and listen to what science is telling you.”

*Kimberly Mitchell,  
Executive Director, Everglades Trust*

For decades, tourism, taxation and trade have been the anchors of the Florida economy. Today and going forward, we are bringing the Everglades into the Florida political narrative, where it deserves to be. Hundreds of thousands of us are standing up to protect the drinking water of 8 million Floridians, our precious, unique ecosystems and waterways, and Florida's most important industry – tourism.

The Now or Neverglades declaration has already garnered more than 30,000 signatures- [be sure to add yours](#).

Several marine-based businesses have shown their support for the Everglades Trust's #NowOrNeverglades including:

## SeaDek Marine Products:



To watch the video, click on the image above or type the following URL in your internet browser: <https://youtu.be/3CR3nNbydLA>

## Costa Sunglasses



To watch the video, click on the image above or type the following URL in your internet browser: <https://youtu.be/5UskNfUUA8I>

## Orvis

Orvis CEO Perk Perkins placed a full-page ad in the Miami Herald featuring a powerful message to Governor Rick Scott and members of the state legislature regarding the vital need to save Florida's Everglades and take action to protect it. You can view the add at the following link: <http://www.orvis.com/news/fly-fishing/orvis-ceo-takes-full-page-ad-miami-herald-urge-lawmakers-protect-everglades/>

For more information about the #NowOrNeverglades campaign, or to read and sign the NowOrNeverglades Declaration check out the Everglades Trust Website: <http://www.evergladestrust.org/>



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# April Showers Bring May Flowers...and tax returns

**G**ot a tax refund burning a hole in your pocket? Then spend it supporting one of the many businesses that support the First Coast Fly Fishers. Each year the Club is able to provide members with numerous opportunities to learn about and enjoy the sport of fly fishing. This is due in large part by the support of our local fly fishing businesses and guides. Please thank them for their support through your patronage.



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**That ain't Roy Rogers Trigger...Kevin  
Becker with a fly-caught triggerfish.**

*Photograph by Mike Edgerly*



# First Coast Fly Fishers 2017 Outings

Meeting Date	Location/Species
January 13 - 15, 2017	<b>St Johns River, Osteen, FL</b> <i>Shad</i> ✓
February 1, 2017	<b>St Johns River - C.S. Lee Ramp</b> <i>Shad</i> ✓
March 2017*	<b>Night Fishing, Clapboard Creek - Jacksonville, FL</b> <i>Seatrout, Redfish</i> ✓
April 2017*	<b>Camping and Fishing Tomoka State Park - Ormond Beach</b> <i>Redfish, Seatrout, Snook, Flounder</i>
May 2017*	<b>St Augustine Area Creeks</b> <i>Redfish, Seatrout, Flounder, Snook</i>
June 2017*	<b>St Johns River - Green Cove Springs</b> <i>Largemouth Bass and Bream</i>
July 2017*	<b>Indian River - Stuart, FL</b> <i>Snook, Tarpon</i>
August 2017*	<b>Little Talbot State Park - Jacksonville, FL</b> <i>Redfish in the Surf</i>
September 2017*	<b>Flood Tide Cedar Point - Jacksonville, FL</b> <i>Redfish, Sheepshead</i>
October 2017*	<b>Flood Tide Palm Valley - Ponte Vedra</b> <i>Redfish, Sheepshead</i>
November 2017*	<b>Clapboard and Simpsons Creeks - Jacksonville, FL</b> <i>Redfish, Flounder</i>
December 2017*	<b>Guana River - South Ponte Vedra</b> <i>Redfish, Seatrout</i>

\* Exact dates to be based on weather and tides



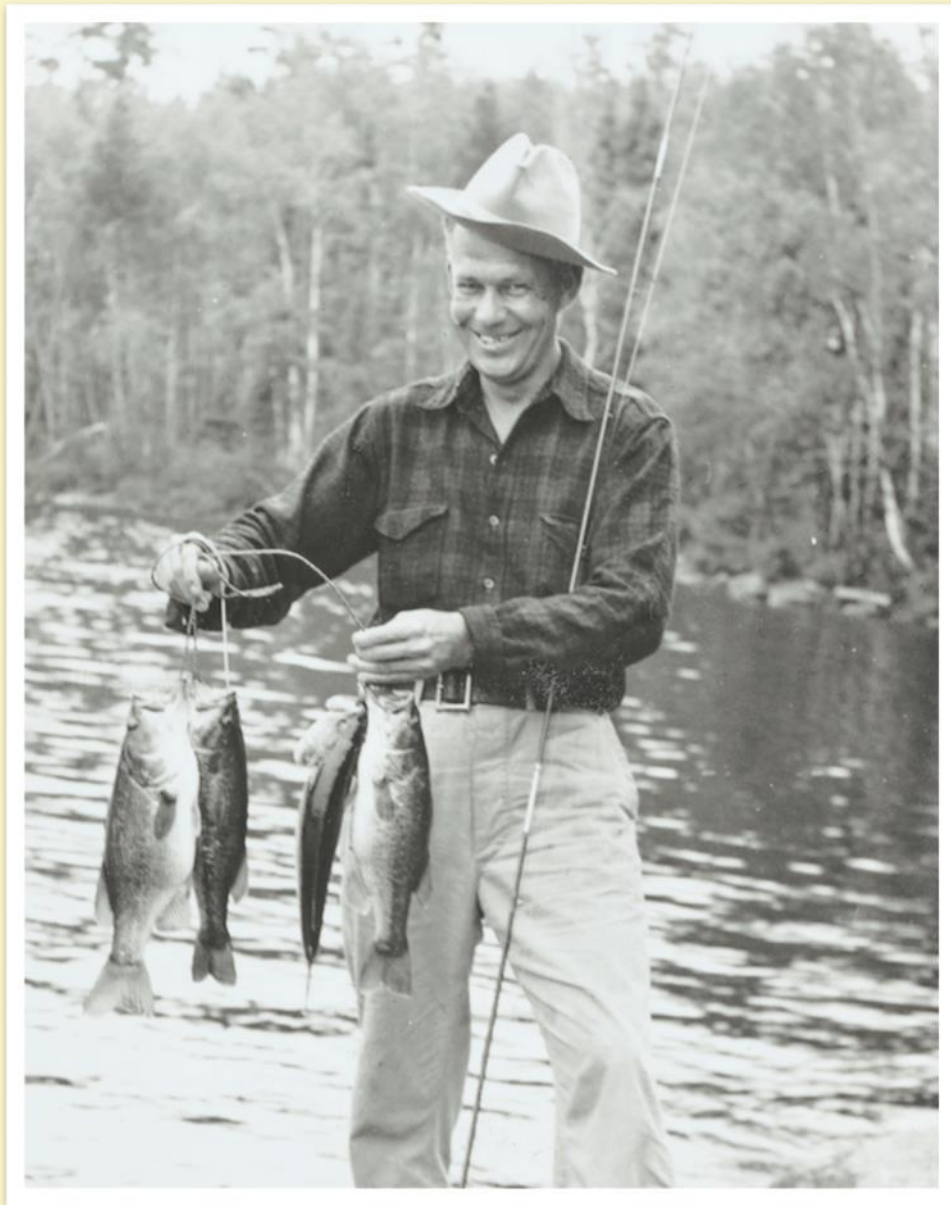


# First Coast Fly Fishers 2017/2018 Programs

Meeting Date	Program/Speaker
March 6, 2017	<b>Tarpon Fishing, Baja Honda Tarpon Lodge</b> <i>Trevor Luce</i> 
April 3, 2017	<b>Offshore Kayak Fishing</b> <i>Pam Wirth</i>
May 1, 2017	<b>Sport Fishing Statistics</b> <i>Rob Southwick, Southwick Associates, Inc.</i>
June 5, 2017	<b>Surf Fishing Little Talbot</b> <i>Capt. John Bottko</i>
July 10, 2017	<b>Stand Up Paddle Board Fishing Guana Dam</b> <i>Matt Chipperfield, North Guana Outpost</i>
August 7, 2017	<b>FCFF Swap Meet (Food and Drinks Provided)</b> <i>FCFF Members</i>
September 11, 2017	<b>Fly Tying</b> <i>Staff from 239Flies.com</i>
October 2, 2017	<b>Fishing Photography with DSLR and Drones</b> <i>Robwil Valerdy</i>
November 6, 2017	<b>Fisheries Conservation</b> <i>Nick Pectol, Costal Conservation Assoc.</i>
December 4, 2017	<b>Secret Santa and Pot Luck Dinner</b> <i>Santa and FCFF Members</i>
January 8, 2018	<b>Fishing in the Digital Age</b> <i>Tom Swick, Fishbrain</i>
February 5, 2017	<b>Fishing the Upper Keys</b> <i>Capt. Honson Laui</i>

*\*Speakers and programs are subject to change*





“I know now as men accept the time clock of the wilderness, their lives become entirely different. It is one of the great compensations of primitive experience, and when one finally reaches the point where days are governed by daylight and dark...where one eats if hungry and sleeps when tired... when one finally arrives at the point where schedules are forgotten... and becomes completely immersed in the ancient rhythms, then one begins to live.”

-*Sigurd F. Olson*  
*Reflections From the North*



# FCFF SmartCasts® Practical Casting Day

## Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

*FCFF Practical Casting Day is free to FCFF Members. Lunch and drinks will be provided.*

**W**ant to cast better? Be more accurate? Throw longer lines? Come to FCFF's Practical Casting Day on Sunday, April 8, at 9 a.m., at M & M Dairy.

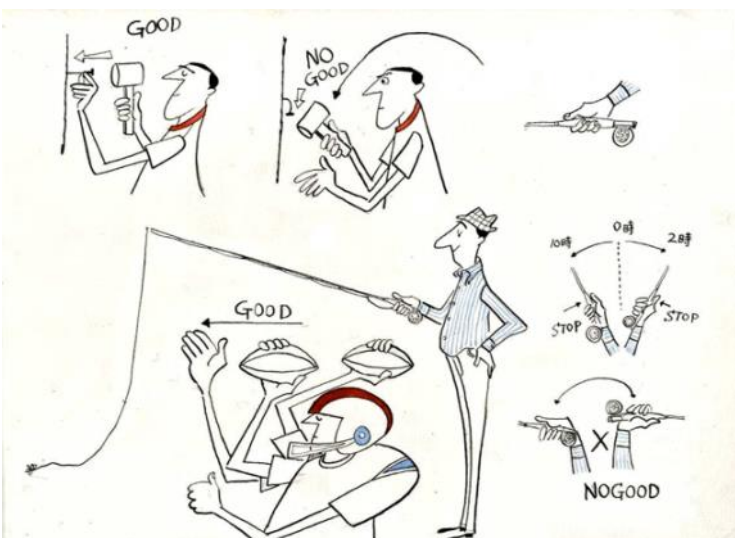
Master Fly Casting Instructor David Lambert and crew will discuss, demonstrate, and diagnose techniques you'll need to hit that target-fish, no matter how close or how far. Lambert is a TFO ambassador and a nationally recognized writer and fly casting instructor. He also is managing editor for *The Loop: International Journal for Professional Fly Casting Instructors*. Assisting will be IFFF Certified Casting Instructor Gavin Glover and expert distance caster and all-round good guy Dick Michaelson.

Lambert and crew will demo and teach techniques for:

*Casting Accuracy* – Techniques and practice suggestions to help you control where and how you fly should land, for both short and longer casts

*Distance Casting* – Distance comes when you do everything else right. Demo, discuss, and diagnose distance concepts, problems, and offer some productive practice routines for increasing your casting distance. Lambert will demo and teach the 'square-cast' distance technique.

*Personal Casting Diagnostics and Corrections* – Instructors will work with each caster to critique casting strokes and offer suggestions to casting improvement



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### Agenda

- 9:00 Coffee and doughnuts. Caster warm-up.
- 9:30 Discussion of basic casting fundamentals and day's topics.
- 10:00 Instructors will demonstrate Distance and Accuracy casts
- 10:15 Divide into groups for distance and group for accuracy. Casting field for distance and accuracy work
- 12:15 Lunch – provided by the Club
- 1:00 Additional Distance and Accuracy Work,. Break into groups for practice and instruction
- 2:00 Individual Casting Diagnostics and Suggestions, done in groups of 4.
- 3:15 Group gathers for questions about others casts, casting problems.
- 4:00 Casting Day ends.



## This Month's Outing....

# Tomoka River State Park April 21 and 22, 2017

The Tomoka River State Park in Ormond Beach provides some excellent fishing opportunities along the Tomoka and Halifax Rivers. In this fertile fishery, fly fishers will have opportunities to catch redfish, flounder, trout, black drum, crevalle jack, and snook. If you choose to venture west of the US 1 bridge, you may even have a shot at stripers.

The Tomoka River is located about 75 miles south of Jacksonville. It is close enough for a day trip, or just the right distance for an overnight stay depending on your preference. For those members so inclined, this outing will include camping overnight at the Tomoka River State Park. The park offers 100 camp sites for tents and RVs in a tree-covered hammock near the river. This time of year, the weather should be ideal for camping.

More information about the State Park or to reserve a camp site, go to the Park's website at: <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Tomoka>. Camp sites may be reserved online using the following link: <https://>

[floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/camping/tomoka-sp/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=FL&parkId=281076](http://floridastateparks.reserveamerica.com/camping/tomoka-sp/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=FL&parkId=281076)

This outing will require that you use a boat (canoe, kayak, power boat). If you don't have a boat, let Mike Harrigan know and he will make sure you are paired up with a member who has a boat.

More information about the outing will be available at the April meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, or have questions regarding the outing, you can contact the Vice President of Outings at [fcffoutings@gmail.com](mailto:fcffoutings@gmail.com).



**Capt. Larry Miniard**

**(904) 285-7003**

**Or**

**(904) 708-0060**

**CAPT. LARRY MINIARD**  
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## APRIL 2017 TIDES JACKSONVILLE (MAYPORT BAR PILOT DOCK)

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT
4/1/2017	Sat 12:30 AM	5.2 H	4/14/2017	Fri 5:03 PM	0.2 L	4/23/2017	Sun 12:02 AM	0.1 L
4/1/2017	Sat 6:28 AM	-0.4 L	4/14/2017	Fri 11:50 PM	4.7 H	4/23/2017	Sun 6:37 AM	4.7 H
4/1/2017	Sat 12:58 PM	4.5 H	4/15/2017	Sat 5:54 AM	0.4 L	4/23/2017	Sun 12:30 PM	-0.2 L
4/1/2017	Sat 6:38 PM	-0.4 L	4/15/2017	Sat 12:09 PM	4.2 H	4/23/2017	Sun 7:05 PM	4.9 H
4/2/2017	Sun 1:27 AM	5.1 H	4/15/2017	Sat 5:38 PM	0.4 L	4/24/2017	Mon 12:58 AM	-0.2 L
4/2/2017	Sun 7:33 AM	-0.1 L	4/16/2017	Sun 12:27 AM	4.6 H	4/24/2017	Mon 7:29 AM	4.8 H
4/2/2017	Sun 1:58 PM	4.4 H	4/16/2017	Sun 6:36 AM	0.6 L	4/24/2017	Mon 1:18 PM	-0.5 L
4/2/2017	Sun 7:45 PM	-0.1 L	4/16/2017	Sun 12:49 PM	4.1 H	4/24/2017	Mon 7:55 PM	5.2 H
4/3/2017	Mon 2:31 AM	4.9 H	4/16/2017	Sun 6:18 PM	0.7 L	4/25/2017	Tue 1:51 AM	-0.6 L
4/3/2017	Mon 8:42 AM	0.1 L	4/17/2017	Mon 1:06 AM	4.5 H	4/25/2017	Tue 8:19 AM	4.9 H
4/3/2017	Mon 3:05 PM	4.3 H	4/17/2017	Mon 7:22 AM	0.8 L	4/25/2017	Tue 2:05 PM	-0.9 L
4/3/2017	Mon 8:55 PM	0.1 L	4/17/2017	Mon 1:32 PM	4.1 H	4/25/2017	Tue 8:46 PM	5.5 H
4/4/2017	Tue 3:42 AM	4.8 H	4/17/2017	Mon 7:05 PM	0.8 L	4/26/2017	Wed 2:42 AM	-0.8 L
4/4/2017	Tue 9:47 AM	0.1 L	4/18/2017	Tue 1:51 AM	4.5 H	4/26/2017	Wed 9:10 AM	4.9 H
4/4/2017	Tue 4:17 PM	4.3 H	4/18/2017	Tue 8:13 AM	0.9 L	4/26/2017	Wed 2:52 PM	-1 L
4/4/2017	Tue 10:03 PM	0.1 L	4/18/2017	Tue 2:21 PM	4 H	4/26/2017	Wed 9:36 PM	5.6 H
4/5/2017	Wed 4:52 AM	4.8 H	4/18/2017	Tue 8:01 PM	0.9 L	4/27/2017	Thu 3:32 AM	-1 L
4/5/2017	Wed 10:49 AM	0.1 L	4/19/2017	Wed 2:42 AM	4.4 H	4/27/2017	Thu 10:02 AM	4.9 H
4/5/2017	Wed 5:25 PM	4.4 H	4/19/2017	Wed 9:06 AM	0.9 L	4/27/2017	Thu 3:40 PM	-1.1 L
4/5/2017	Wed 11:07 PM	0.1 L	4/19/2017	Wed 3:16 PM	4.1 H	4/27/2017	Thu 10:29 PM	5.6 H
4/6/2017	Thu 5:55 AM	4.8 H	4/19/2017	Wed 9:02 PM	0.9 L	4/28/2017	Fri 4:24 AM	-0.9 L
4/6/2017	Thu 11:46 AM	0 L	4/20/2017	Thu 3:41 AM	4.4 H	4/28/2017	Fri 10:56 AM	4.8 H
4/6/2017	Thu 6:25 PM	4.6 H	4/20/2017	Thu 9:58 AM	0.8 L	4/28/2017	Fri 4:30 PM	-1 L
4/7/2017	Fri 12:07 AM	-0.1 L	4/20/2017	Thu 4:17 PM	4.2 H	4/28/2017	Fri 11:22 PM	5.6 H
4/7/2017	Fri 6:50 AM	4.8 H	4/20/2017	Thu 10:04 PM	0.7 L	4/29/2017	Sat 5:18 AM	-0.7 L
4/7/2017	Fri 12:39 PM	-0.2 L	4/21/2017	Fri 4:44 AM	4.5 H	4/29/2017	Sat 11:50 AM	4.7 H
4/7/2017	Fri 7:17 PM	4.8 H	4/21/2017	Fri 10:50 AM	0.5 L	4/29/2017	Sat 5:24 PM	-0.7 L
4/8/2017	Sat 1:02 AM	-0.2 L	4/21/2017	Fri 5:17 PM	4.4 H	4/30/2017	Sun 12:17 AM	5.5 H
4/8/2017	Sat 7:39 AM	4.8 H	4/21/2017	Fri 11:04 PM	0.5 L	4/30/2017	Sun 6:17 AM	-0.5 L
4/8/2017	Sat 1:27 PM	-0.3 L	4/22/2017	Sat 5:43 AM	4.6 H	4/30/2017	Sun 12:47 PM	4.6 H
4/8/2017	Sat 8:05 PM	4.9 H	4/22/2017	Sat 11:40 AM	0.2 L	4/30/2017	Sun 6:25 PM	-0.4 L
4/9/2017	Sun 1:52 AM	-0.4 L	4/22/2017	Sat 6:13 PM	4.6 H			
4/9/2017	Sun 8:23 AM	4.8 H						
4/9/2017	Sun 2:11 PM	-0.4 L						
4/9/2017	Sun 8:48 PM	4.9 H						
4/10/2017	Mon 2:38 AM	-0.5 L						
4/10/2017	Mon 9:04 AM	4.7 H						
4/10/2017	Mon 2:50 PM	-0.4 L						
4/10/2017	Mon 9:28 PM	4.9 H						
4/11/2017	Tue 3:20 AM	-0.4 L						
4/11/2017	Tue 9:43 AM	4.6 H						
4/11/2017	Tue 3:26 PM	-0.4 L						
4/11/2017	Tue 10:06 PM	4.9 H						
4/12/2017	Wed 3:59 AM	-0.4 L						
4/12/2017	Wed 10:20 AM	4.5 H						
4/12/2017	Wed 4:00 PM	-0.2 L						
4/12/2017	Wed 10:41 PM	4.8 H						
4/13/2017	Thu 4:37 AM	-0.2 L						
4/13/2017	Thu 10:56 AM	4.4 H						
4/13/2017	Thu 4:32 PM	0 L						
4/13/2017	Thu 11:15 PM	4.8 H						
4/14/2017	Fri 5:15 AM	0.1 L						
4/14/2017	Fri 11:32 AM	4.3 H						

