

# FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

NOVEMBER 2017



*Educating, Restoring, Conserving through Fly Fishing*

# FCFF November Meeting 7<sup>PM</sup> November 6, 2017

## Blackfly Tarpon Tap Room

# Changing the World One Mangrove at a Time

**Presented By Kyle Rossin, MANG**

**P**lease join the First Coast Fly Fishers this month as we welcome Kyle Rossin with MANG to discuss his company's mission to restore mangrove habitat throughout Florida. Note, the November meeting will be held at the Blackfly Tarpon Taproom at 11702 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville.

MANG is for the mangroves, and for every product sold we plant a mangrove for our customers. Brothers Kyle and Keith Rossin have always had a passion for the Florida's coastlines and communities. In 2015, they made their dreams come true with the startup of MANG and the Buy One. Plant One. Initiative. Mangroves are a critical life source for the environment. They not only provide habitat for multiple types of wildlife, but they also provide the basic nutrients that kick-start the cycle of life in the estuary. MANG developed their initiative as a way to give back and to further enrich and protect our coastlines. Our mission is to educate people on mangrove ecosystems and facilitate community projects. MANG's mission is to be locally recognized in Florida as a mangrove restoration company by 2020. As avid fisherman and outdoorsmen, we both recognized the importance of preserving and conserving our coastal habitats. Our goal is to make sure that there is an abundance of wildlife for future generations. Understanding that just one new life can make a difference.



### On the Cover:

Photograph by Jason Sheasley

Thanks to Luke Davis for the politically inspired koozie.

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# Big Fish No Big Deal for Wanda Taylor

By Mike Hodge

**A**fter months of plotting and planning, patience and persistence paid off for Wanda Taylor. The South's First Lady of fly fishing caught two blue marlin on fly.

Not just two blue marlin. Make that two world-record caliber blue marlin.

The first fish checked in at approximately 150 pounds. The second? A mere 280.

Both catches easily surpassed the International Game Fish Association women's world record for blue marlin on fly. The second marlin more than tripled the current 20-pound tippet mark.

Not bad for a first-time student at Jake Jordan's Costa Rica Blue Marlin Fly Fishing School.

"I want to do it again," Taylor said during a phone interview from her North Georgia home last week. "I'm truly in love with bluewater fishing. It's really hard to catch a trout now. Really, I love to trout fish. I love any kind of fishing. That was one of the coolest things I've ever done."

Neither of the two fish Taylor landed counted as an official world record. IGFA guidelines require strict documentation before a catch qualifies as a world record. In many big-game fishing situations where a world-record is at stake the fish is killed. Killing blue marlin is illegal in Costa Rica.

Regardless, Jordan practices catch-and-release, as does Taylor.

"I don't care about having my name in a book," she said. "We know we did it."

Actually, this trip was supposed to happen last summer, but was delayed when fishing conditions unexpectedly declined at the last minute, a development that left Taylor unfulfilled, but not undeterred.

"It's like a fighter," Taylor said. "You have to get ready. I had to get my head right. It just took a while (to get over the disappointment), then I had to. It took me a few days, but I did it."

The yearlong delay, no doubt, sharpened Taylor's resolve. She attributed much of her success to teamwork. Jordan, a fellow TFO national advisory staffer, coached her; the captain handled the boat; and the mates manned the teasers and handled the big fish.

All were aboard the Dragin Fly for a four-day, three-night trip out of the Los Suenos resort in early August.

"It's like a dance," Taylor said. "They all work so well together. If someone screws up, it's over."

Taylor said she's caught sailfish before, but that species does not compare to the breathtaking power of a blue marlin. What about tarpon on fly?

"There's no comparison," said Taylor, a fly fishing and casting instructor, who was the first woman inducted into the Southern Appalachian Fly Fishing Hall of Fame. "You can't stop a marlin. You can fight a tarpon. But a marlin is totally different. They have no idea they're hooked. If you fight them, they break off. It's like fighting a train. You can't stop a train."

Jordan teaches his students to fight big fish by pointing their rod at their quarry and using the drag to apply pressure. There's no bend in the rod, which runs contrary to the "down-and-dirty" approach many tarpon fishermen use.

Jordan's method may not be conventional, but it works — if you have the skill to execute under pressure and not revert to muscle memory. Done right, the fish should fatigue well before the angler does.

"It's not one of those things you just go out and do," Taylor said. "If you don't know what you're doing, it's over. The way that Jake teaches it, it's so different from the way anyone else teaches it in the world. Everything



that you know about fighting fish, you can throw it down the toilet when you fish with him. He's got it figured out how it hurts the fish more, but not the angler. It's a very, very cool procedure."

The first fight lasted about 30 minutes. The second took less than 25. She used a TFO Bluewater Heavy Duty rod with a Mako reel. Her fly? An 8/0 pink and white Cam Siglar.

"That (second) fish jumped a lot," Taylor said. "It was almost to the boat and jumped. A photographer's dream. I told myself not to rush it. I tried to slow everything down."

In marlin fishing, timing is everything. Once you get the fish near the boat, you don't have long to get your quarry under control for the release. Those who dawdle can be in for an extended battle if the fish regains its strength.

And if you're in open water, do not, under any circumstances, decide to slug it out. Taylor's third fish, estimated at well over 300 pounds, imposed its will well

away from the boat, a 43-foot Maverick.

"I got the big head," Taylor said. "I thought I could stop the fish. It started jumping and darting. It was a mile away. I couldn't believe it was my fish. I didn't take my hand off the reel and it popped. Angler error. I don't know, I blacked. Just watching that monster jump like that, it was just amazing. Such a magnificent fish. I was in the moment. I didn't bow."

Nevertheless Jordan, who has caught 56 blue marlin on fly, offered a tip of the cap to Taylor's performance.

"She is a really good caster and has a lot of really good fishing skills," Jordan said. "She's a really good fisherman. Wanda, being the great athlete and angler she is, she was able to listen to instruction and do what she was told. She caught the first marlin she hooked, a 150-pounder. That alone is pretty incredible."

Editors Note: This article originally appeared on the Temple Fork Outfitters Blog: <https://tforods.com/big-fish-no-big-deal-wanda-taylor/>



Photograph: Chris Sheeder





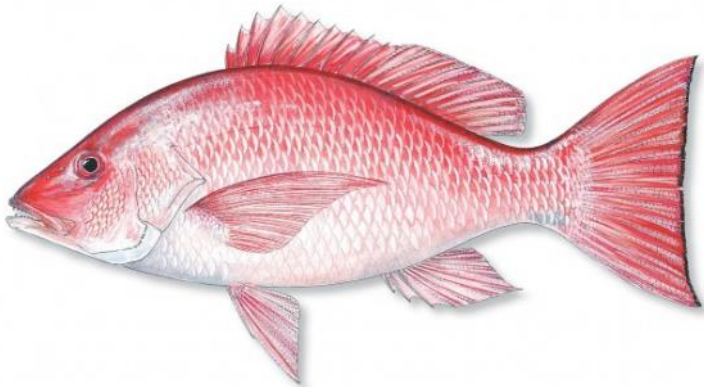
# NOAA Approves Red Snapper Season in South Atlantic

Season Includes Two Consecutive Three-day Weekends

During the last South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (SAFMC) meeting in September, the Council requested that NOAA and the Secretary of Commerce approve a Red Snapper season for 2017. We're pleased that a Snapper season was confirmed for November 3-5 and November 10-12. The bag limit has been set at one fish per person and there will be no size limit.

The SAFMC and NOAA are asking that anglers take special care of species caught but not harvested, and descending devices are being recommended as a great way to return fish to the bottom when experiencing barotrauma. At CCA Florida, we are committed to science and ensuring there are fish for future generations, and ask all anglers to use these devices to help improve survival rates. SAFMC has also requested that anglers use this opportunity to test a new voluntary reporting website called [myfishcount.com](http://myfishcount.com). This website gives anglers a chance to report their catches and interactions on the water.

*From the Coastal Conservation Association*



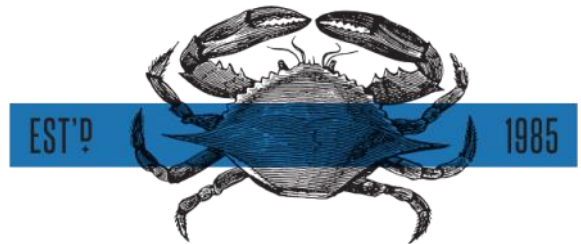
## REGULATIONS

Waters	Min Size Limit	Bag Limit	Open Season
Atlantic	State: 20" Federal: None	State: 2/person Federal: 1/person	State: Year Round Federal: Nov. 2, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12.



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# Fly Rod & Reel

## Ceases Publication

If you have a copy of the Spring 2017 issue of *Fly Rod & Reel* magazine you may want to hand onto it. As of April of this year, Down East Enterprises ceased publication of the magazine. Greg Thomas, who was Editor of the magazine for the last seven year, [was informed in mid-March](#) that his services would no longer be needed. Subscribers to the magazine were sent a letter indicating that the magazine has ceased publication and that they would receive *Shooting Sportsman* for their balance of the subscription.

The magazine was started in 1979 by John Merwin under the masthead *Rod & Reel: The Journal of American Fishing* and focused on all manner of fishing. Eventually, fly fishing became the main focus of the magazine. The magazine was never known for in-depth technical articles. The articles were more literary in nature, with a focus on travel and conservation pieces. For years it was the monthly home for columns by Lee Wulff Ted Williams and John Gierach and artwork by Bob White. The magazine was also home to the Angler of the Year Award and the Robert Traver Fly Fishing Writing Contest.

Unfortunately, like so many other magazines, *Fly Rod & Reel* failed to keep pace with the changing publishing landscape



Gierach and White

Photograph by Bob White

## Keeping the Band Together

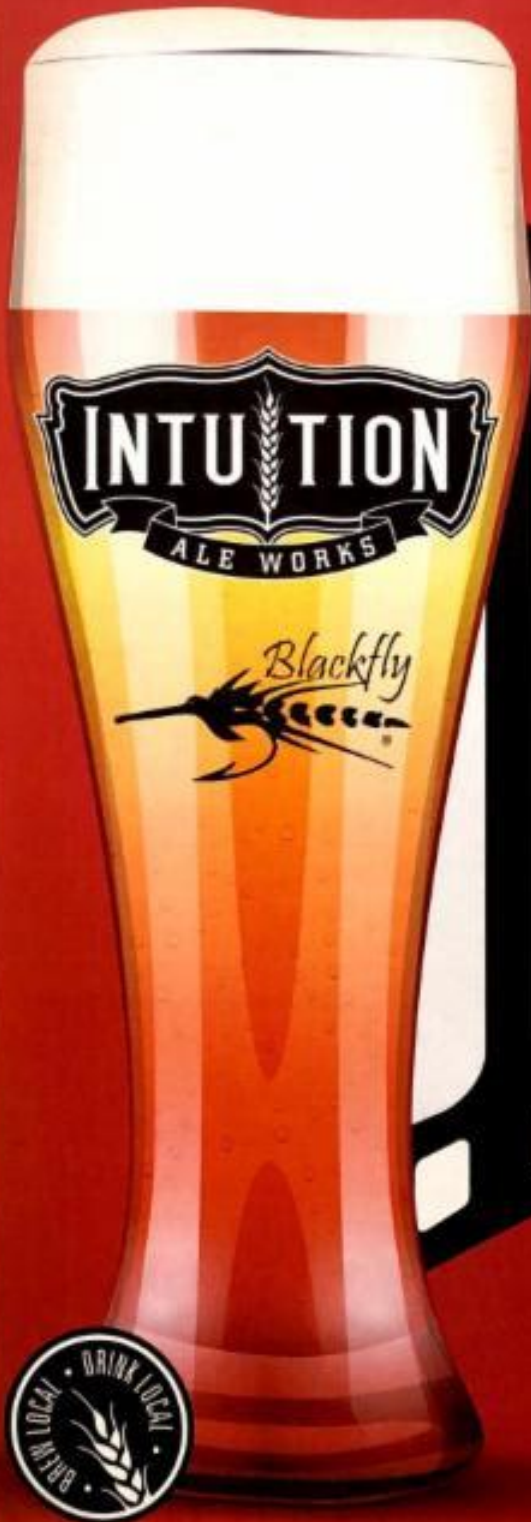
One of the long-running features of *Fly Rod & Reel* magazine was the *Sporting Life* column, which was first written by Lee Wulff. Following Lee's death in 1991, the column was taken over by John Gierach with artwork by Bob White. The team of Gierach and White was a mainstay of the magazine since March 1992.

Kirk Deeter, Editor of *TROUT* magazine announced that the Gierach and White partnership will continue with the Fall 2017 issue of the magazine. According to Deeter, "it is an honor to be able to work with John and Bob. I have long been a fan of both of their work on a personal level. I looked forward to the column in *Fly Rod & Reel*, and I'm glad it will keep rolling through *TROUT*."

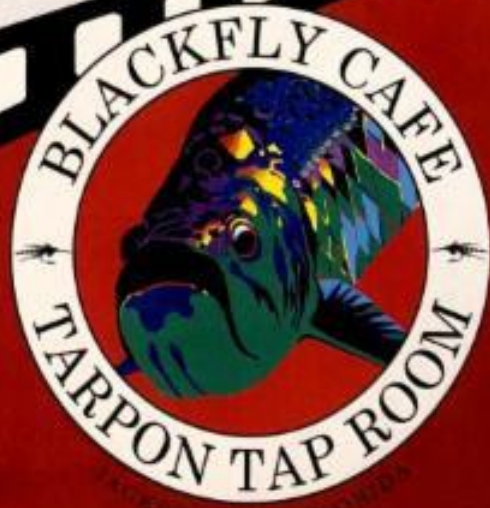


# INTUITION TAP TAKEOVER

THURS., NOV. 9<sup>TH</sup>  
STARTING AT 6PM



Showing  
Fly Fishing  
Highlights  
& Short Films

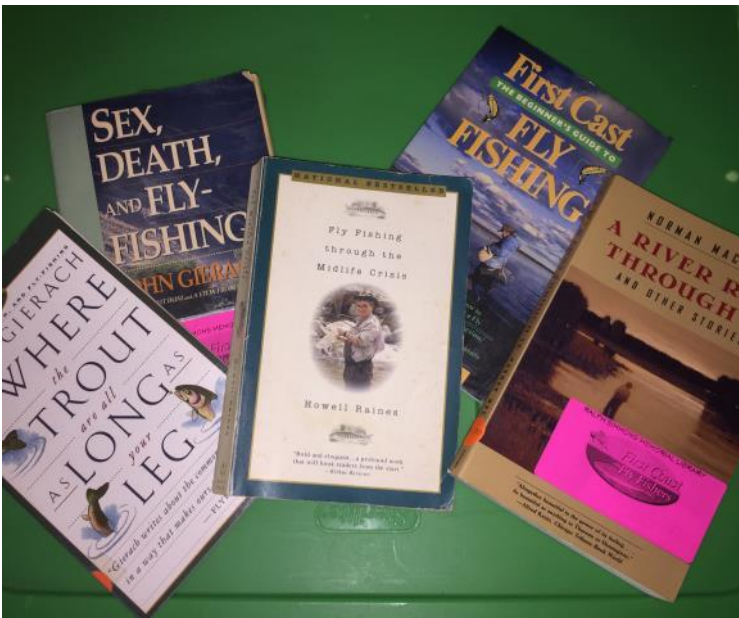




# Book Sale

Did you know that First Coast Fly Fishers has an extensive library of fly fishing and outdoor books, DVD's, and VHS tapes (seriously)? Our library has a vast selection of books and video tapes. The collection ranges from video tapes including *Lefty's Tips, Tactics and Techniques for Fly fishing*, *A River Runs Through It* and *The Art of Poling* to numerous books on topics ranging from fly tying, the philosophy of fly fishing, to several John Gierach selections.

However, with the broad availability of fly fishing instruction and literature available on the internet nowadays the Club has seen a steady decrease in the use of the library materials by our members. With this being the case, the Board has decided retire the library and distribute the Club's collection of books, video tapes and DVDs to the members. In the coming months we will be making the library materials available to members at our meetings. Any materials that are not claimed by the end of the year will be donated to a charity thrift store. Be sure to take a look at what's available at our next meeting. If there is something special you are interested in send an email inquiry to [firstcoastflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:firstcoastflyfishers@gmail.com).



## First Coast Fly Fishing Unlimited

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## Do You Remember Your First Meeting?

Do you remember the very first time that attended an FCFF meeting?

Were you a little nervous or even apprehensive?

Were members standing out by the pond laughing and talking to each other without noticing you?

Did you step into the crowd and introduce yourself or quietly go inside and find a seat?

Attending a meeting where you do not know anyone can be VERY intimidating, but it does not have to be. A welcoming face and a proactive handshake from a club member may be the difference in whether or not the visitor returns.

It is incumbent upon each of us to be proactive greeters to those who visit a meeting and those who are not yet well known to everyone. Keep your eyes open for that person standing alone. Introduce yourself, then bring them into the conversation and introduce them to everyone present. Let's become known for our over-the-top greeting of new people. This will greatly increase the odds of seeing them again.





# Casting Masters Then and Now Lefty Kreh: A Lifetime of Lessons and Learning

by Mac Brown, MCI, Bryson City NC, USA

**D**uring his six decades of teaching fly casting and fly fishing, Lefty Kreh has been known as a bit of a maverick, a casting renegade, a provocateur, even a black sheep.

Say what you like about him, though, because at age 92 years old, Lefty Kreh, the plain-spoken fly casting instructor from Cockeysville, Maryland, has introduced more people to fly fishing and fly casting than any one person in the world.

At 92, Lefty Kreh is still The Big Name, the Drawing Card. Lefty still pulls the crowds in. But it takes a toll, all this traveling, these road trips and these demonstrations, these large crowds. Lefty admits he's slowed down some, but he's still busy most weekends. Lots of big shows and demos and lectures. Still, he'll stay doing it as long as his body is strong and his mind is sharp.

And his mind is sharp. . .but then so is his tongue. It always has been. Banter and crowd engagement is part of the charm, part of his attraction. People eat it up. Lefty himself might say that he's as busy as a one-armed paper hanger. Busier than a Chicago homicide cop. Lefty has a way with humor like no other, and I have always cherished it.

In mid-June I made a call to Lefty to talk about fly casting and the changes in the world of fly fishing he's seen over the past seven decades. This was one of many conversations I've had with Lefty over the past 20 or so years. This conversation was no different the others – filled with ideas on fishing and fly casting, conversations and challenges, and memories.

I first met Lefty in the early 90s. Back then I taught the fly fishing programs at Western Carolina University. I was impressed how he worked large groups of new fly fishers. When Lefty was up, the crowd moved toward him, he had his own gravity. Part of his draw was he made fly casting seem fun. He'd bring people into the game, make jokes to the crowd, make jokes *about* the crowd, and he'd poke a little fun at himself along the way.



The crowds loved him, and they still do, because Lefty is one of them. He makes fly casting and fly fishing seem doable, achievable, and fun.

Lefty uses humor as a teaching tool.

Lefty started fly casting 1947, when a guy named Joe Brooks gave him a fly casting lesson. Brooks, the outdoor editor of *The Baltimore Sun*, would later become the fishing editor of *Outdoor Life*. Joe's lesson used the clock image to teach, the rod stops at 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock. 'It was not the most effective way to get a fly out there for the type of fishing I was doing,' Lefty has said.

'Joe left town the very next morning,' he said, which left Lefty to figure out his *own* most method of efficient fly casting. That method evolved into Lefty's principles of fly casting around 1965. Disagree with him all you want, but those principles and his 30+ books, his numerous videos and literally hundreds of articles have interested and intrigued fly casters and potential fly fishers for decades.

Lefty started traveling often in the 60s, when his books and articles became well known. Since he'd always enjoyed photography, he incorporated photography into his travels. (And he wrote a book on outdoor photog-



Private Benard "Lefty" Krch 69<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in WW II

raphy for LL Bean.)

'Photography uses very simple principles,' Lefty said. 'Those include: 1) how to expose it, 2) how to compose it, and 3) how to light it.' He began to reduce his early casting concepts using the same simple, basic-principle approach he learned and used in his photography.

They became known as *Lefty's Four Principles of Fly Casting*:

1. Remove slack. You can't make a good cast until the end of your line is moving.
2. The casting hand and rod must continue to accelerate and then come to an abrupt stop.
3. The line follows in the direction the rod tip speeds up and stops. Most casts call for the rod tip to follow a straight line path.
4. The longer the rod tip travels back and forward during the casting stroke the less effort is required.



Lefty at home in his fly tying room.



At the time Lefty proposed these casting concepts, the traditional clock-face approach was the dominant learning style throughout America. No one in the States was advocating for this approach. Lefty was among the first Americans to adapt this instinctive style of working with ovals and long strokes.

Lefty believes there is no one-way to cast! All casters are built differently. Tackle choices come into play, and casting situations change -- conditions like wind direction always vary. Lefty believes the use of this 'whole body' approach is instinctive, just as in all sports.

Lefty said that in his travels of 24 countries over the past 65 years, all of the indigenous people he's seen cast who have learned to cast on their own cast naturally by pivoting their bodies. 'The only ones that have issues fly-casting have been taught traditional clock face fly-casting,' he said.

These days, Lefty still believes strongly that a longer stroke (for dealing with wind or distance) just makes sense. Keeping the elbow low, as though on an imaginary shelf, helps with incorporating the torso rotation, which in turn leads to efficient fishing casts. At 92 years old, using larger muscle enables him to make long casts without becoming fatigued.

And he says the back cast must travel exactly opposite of the forward cast to have the greatest efficiency. Short casts use a short stroke and longer casts use a long stroke. Begin the cast slow and end fast for a smooth stroke. Wherever you stop the rod tip, the line travels in the same direction the tip was traveling just before it stopped.

The body may pivot very little for say a 20-foot cast. Long casts of 70 feet or more may have the body pivoting a much greater distance. Use the body to match the conditions at hand. Lefty says this was just instinctive in his early years casting a fly rod. If he lengthened the stroke by simply pivoting a great distance, the cast remained efficient.

#### *Some Historical Context:*

The long-stroke, constant-tension style cast was a style that Hans Gebetsroither, a river keeper on the river Traun in Austria, began working with and advocating for in the 1930s. Hans likely invented this new casting style, which offered many advantages for fishing. Hans taught students to use the index finger laid straight on the cork for feeling the rod load and also accuracy. The advantage of this Austrian-style of elliptical casting is that it keeps constant tension on the line.

Sometime after WWII Hans taught this constant-tension

style to the famous Belgian caster Albert Goddard. Goddard was among the finest fly casters in Europe and he attended many world championships. He won a silver medal employing that style at the 1958 World Championship in Brussels.

French hotelier Charles Ritz was also a student of Hans Gebetsroither. Ritz and Goddard came to America several times to teach the elliptical style of casts they had learned from Hans.

Because Goddard was Belgian, this form of casting became known as a *Belgian cast*, but the term really should be '*Austrian*' cast. As Americans, it's time for us to refrain from using the term Belgian cast. It is Austrian casting from the 1930s.

Lefty taught with Charles Ritz in the Catskills of NY. He recalls his brand new L.L. Bean winter jacket was stolen (along with Ritz's jackets) while they were teaching a large group.

Interestingly, all the instructors named above have at one time or another been controversial. They have all been considered black sheep. Yet, they advanced the body of knowledge of fly casting and pushed newer casters to think deeply about the physics of the cast.

#### *Fly Casting Instructors and the Sport of Fly Fishing*

One thing Lefty Kreh is adamant about: Fly casting instructors should know how to make bad fly casts. This is where the magic of diagnostics really comes into play. Better instructors must share their knowledge with others and not simply display knowledge. Learn to cast equally well using both hands as well if you teach often.

As to the growth of fly fishing in America? 'Today it is off the charts!' Lefty said when he had that first lesson with Joe Brooks he never saw anyone in Maryland with a fly rod.

Lefty believes that modern fly lines are one of the biggest chaos factors in the industry today. There have been several instances where many top fly fishers tried to steer the direction of fly lines. Yet, very little has been done to correct the issue that most modern lines today are all over the place in regards to their weight for the first 30 feet of line. This would be an easy fix, but do the masses want it, he muses. So many custom lines out there confuses new casters. He also thinks that fly lines are 'way' overpriced, since most lines cost little more than a few bucks to manufacture.



As a caster and fly fisher, I'd like to say thank you Lefty Kreh for a lifetime of teaching, of giving back to a wonderful sport. Thank you for showing us that fly casting can be taught with both humor and sincerity. Thank you for showing us instructors how NOT to take ourselves too seriously.

You continue to enrich the sport of fly-fishing. Your work and your works will benefit future fly flingers for years to come.

Using your signature sign off...

All the best to you Lefty Kreh.

**About the Author:** Mac Brown is an MCI and professional fly fishing guide who lives in Bryson City, NC, USA, in the Smoky Mountains. His most recent endeavor is operating a fly-fishing guide school in which he teaches with many close friends, with whom he's worked for more than 30 years (<https://flyfishingguide.schools.com>). Mac's book, *Casting Angles*, continues to sell well worldwide and he continues to challenge casters to think critically about fly casting and fly fishing. Mac Brown is currently working on a new book about highly efficient fly fishing techniques.

For more info, navigate to Mac's website -- <https://macbrown.flyfish.com/>)

*Editor's Note: Mac Brown and Lefty Kreh were inducted into the Fly Fishing Museum of Southern Appalachia Hall of Fame Aug. 26, 2017, in Bryson City, NC. (<https://flyfishingmuseum.org>)*

*This article originally appeared in the April-July 2017 issue of the Loop, The Journal of Fly Casting Professionals (<http://flyfishersinternational.org/Portals/0/Documents/Casting/The20Loop/2017.APR-JUL.LOOP.pdf?ver=2017-08-22-135256-000>)*



**For additional history, bio, and quips from Lefty Kreh, check out the following links:**

<http://gardenandgun.com/feature/southern-master-the-legend-of-lefty/>

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/sports/bs-sp-lefty-kreh-20150307-story.html>

<http://www.powerandmotoryacht.com/technique/saltwater-fly-fishing-lefty-kreh>



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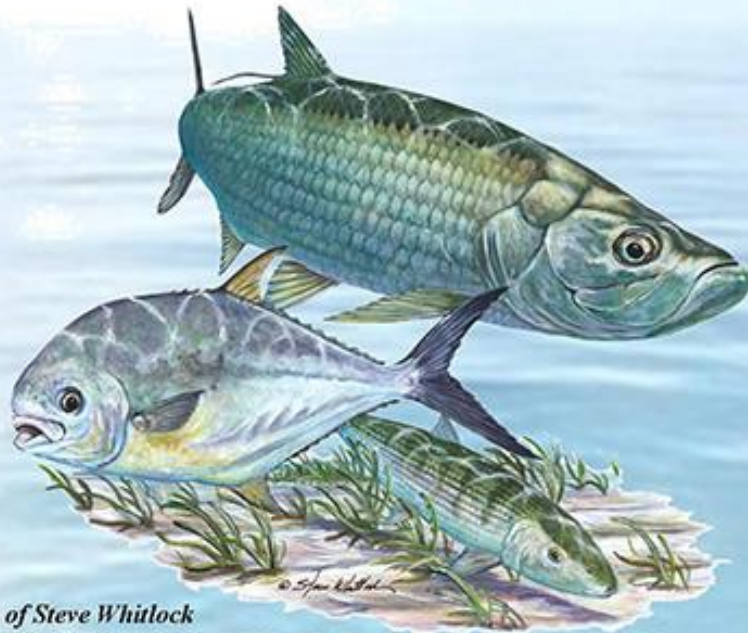


# SAVE THE DATE!



## November 9, 2017

Join us for the annual  
CCA Jacksonville Chapter  
Banquet & Auction presented by  
*Merrill Lynch*



*Image courtesy of Steve Whitlock*

**Garden Club of Jacksonville**  
**1005 Riverside Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32204**  
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**Open Bar, Steak Dinner & One Year  
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**Prices for tickets and tables will be available soon.**

For More Information visit [www.ccaflorida.org/spacecoast](http://www.ccaflorida.org/spacecoast) or contact:  
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Coastal Conservation Association Florida is a grassroots organization that is committed to conserving and protecting Florida's marine resources.

# The FCFF Forum Fishing Report

By Chan Ritchie

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY

While back someone asked me why I do not post my fishing stories on the club Facebook page. Well, for one thing I would feel disloyal to the club members by sharing our treasure with the masses. The Fishing Reports found under the [Forum tab](#) on FCFF.org are available **only to members**. Much of the information found there over the years is underwritten by thousands of hours of on-the-water experience passed down from long ago members. Their efforts have value to us today and value has a price....membership.

Don't get me wrong, I do not have a selfish bone in my body. I will help anyone learn to catch a red in the grass, if they are willing to put in the effort. Regardless, when I publish information it is meant for our fly fishing brotherhood. Besides, if we share it with everybody, then it's not really a club.



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I used to check the forum literally every day because men of constant leisure like Maddog Mike, John Adams, Robo and others were posting often. Big John would still post if he could, but sadly his July 16, 2016 River Report would be his final gift to his club. Maddog can still be counted on to keep the tradition alive, but we need everyone to take part in this vital thread that has done so much to make the club a club. Members-only traditions are the soul of the fellowship that we all get from membership in any club. They reinforce our sense of belonging. Besides this, we owe it to our new members to share what we know. Fifteen years ago I could not buy a redfish bite with cash and a co-signer. But today, thanks in no small part to our Fishing Report, I realistically expect to get bit by 100% of the reds that I cast to on the grass.

There are currently ten years of wonderful reports on the Forum. Take a look. For many it will be an adventurous trip down memory lane that will ignite a spark of new enthusiasm. For others it will be an appetizer for what lies ahead.

Either way we all win.

## Oyster Creek Outfitters Hardy Casting Contest Results

On October 21 and 22, Oyster Creek Outfitters held the Hardy Casting Contest in conjunction with the store's Third Annual Year End Close Out Sale. Casters from across northeast Florida were judged on accuracy and distance casting using a Hardy Zephyrus Rod.

Don Whitlock took home the top prize, a Hardy Zephyrus 8-weight rod and SDSL reel. Second place, with the longest cast of the competition went to Patrick Gingras. The third place winner, and most accurate caster was Sam Stack. Congratulations guys!



# HARDY



FROM THE DESK  
OF LEFTY KREH

To my friends,

I was 92 in January and had a carotid artery operation. During testing the hospital determined my heart was only pumping 35% and must limit my physical activities followed by a rest. The industry was extremely helpful and last season was able to attend the shows, clinics, etc.

Several weeks ago, I realized I was developing another problem, which is normal for someone nearly 93. It turns out I have congested heart failure. My pacemaker revealed there was a series of very rapid hear beats, which could cause a stroke. Fortunately a lot of doctor/friends are fly-fisherman and worked with me. In summary I have to give up travel and presentations as in the past.

Everyone produces a certain amount of fluid in the body and excretes the excess. Because of the low heartbeat my body is not getting rid of all the fluids and I gained weight. My best friend Dr. Mark Lamos put me in the hospital and with back procedure they twice removed a liter and a half of fluid from my chest. After five days in the hospital. I lost weight.

A week or so later I starting gaining weight again so it was back in the hospital for the same treatment. They reduced most of the fluid and returned home. I determined I was not going to continue back to the hospital. Mark decided to use medicine to control the excess fluid. It's been a fine-tuning situation but looks like it's starting work.

This means the schedule I lived for decades is no longer valid and will spend most my time at home. As we get older we learn to adjust to what we can and cannot do. I have a number of interesting computer home projects on the computer and busier than a Syrian bricklayer. I'm not frustrated and I'm content My problem is I don't have a lot of stamina and have to work around that. If Marks medical system works I should be busy and around for a year or two.

I would like to be able to send this email to my friends but I don't really know how to do this. So I'm asking others to help me spread the word through email. Because my lack of energy and stamina I having trouble answering emails (there are more than 400 on the computer) and not talking much on the phone. This is not meant to be unfriendly is learning to adjuster my situation.

In summary I'm busy and content but I want you to know I am so appreciative you've have shared your lives with me.

All The Best Friends,

*Lefty Kreh*

# Fly Fishers International 2018 Florida Fly Fishing Expo February 9-10, 2018

## Planning for 2018

**Crystal River, Florida** – Plantation on Crystal River on Florida's Central Gulf Coast has been selected to host the 2018 Florida Fly Fishing Expo Feb. 9-10.

The annual event, open to the public, will utilize the expansive grounds and meeting rooms of the on-the-water hotel for displays of the newest fly fishing gear, boats, and clothing plus fly casting and fly tying demonstrations and seminars by nationally-known experts. Previous Florida Expos have featured some of the biggest names in fly fishing.

“Everybody is welcome including those who are just getting into fly fishing,” said Tom Gadacz, president of the Florida Council of Fly Fishers International, which produces the annual event. “This Expo is where all fly fishers need to be to learn from the best. And family members who don't fly fish will have plenty to do. Options include golfing, scenic river tours, and even swimming with the manatees.”

“Plantation on Crystal River is in the middle of Florida so it's convenient to Florida fly fishers in north Florida or south Florida and it has a reputation for amazing freshwater and saltwater gamefishing,” said Gadacz. “Plus, I should mention that a lot of the local guides are anxious to help visiting fly fishers catch those fish.”

Admission to the family-friendly expo is \$25 which includes admission on both days including the Friday evening social, Feb. 9. Admission is free for those 12 and younger when accompanied by an adult.

### Helpful links

[Florida Council, Fly Fishers International](#)  
[Florida Council, Fly Fishers International, Facebook](#)  
[Plantation on Crystal River](#)  
[Discover Crystal River](#)



Incoming and outgoing members of the Board of Directors will be meeting later this month to plan for 2018. The Board Members will be outlining the programs and outings for the upcoming year as well as establishing dates for casting clinics and fly tying classes. If you have any recommendations for potential meeting speakers or outing locations let us know.

Play an active role in your Club. Send your recommendations to Board President Scott Shoher at [sdsober@gmail.com](mailto:sdsober@gmail.com)

## Capt. John Bottko



**(904) 757-5757 Or (904) 997-2220**



**Don Edlin caught this nice red on a flood tide with his famous Octogo fly in early October**



# 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>Matanzas Inlet</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>HURRICANE IRMA</b>	
	<del>Flood Tide Cedar Point - Jacksonville, FL</del> <del><i>Redfish, Sheepshead</i></del>	
October 2017*	<b>Flood Tide Palm Valley - Cedar Point</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



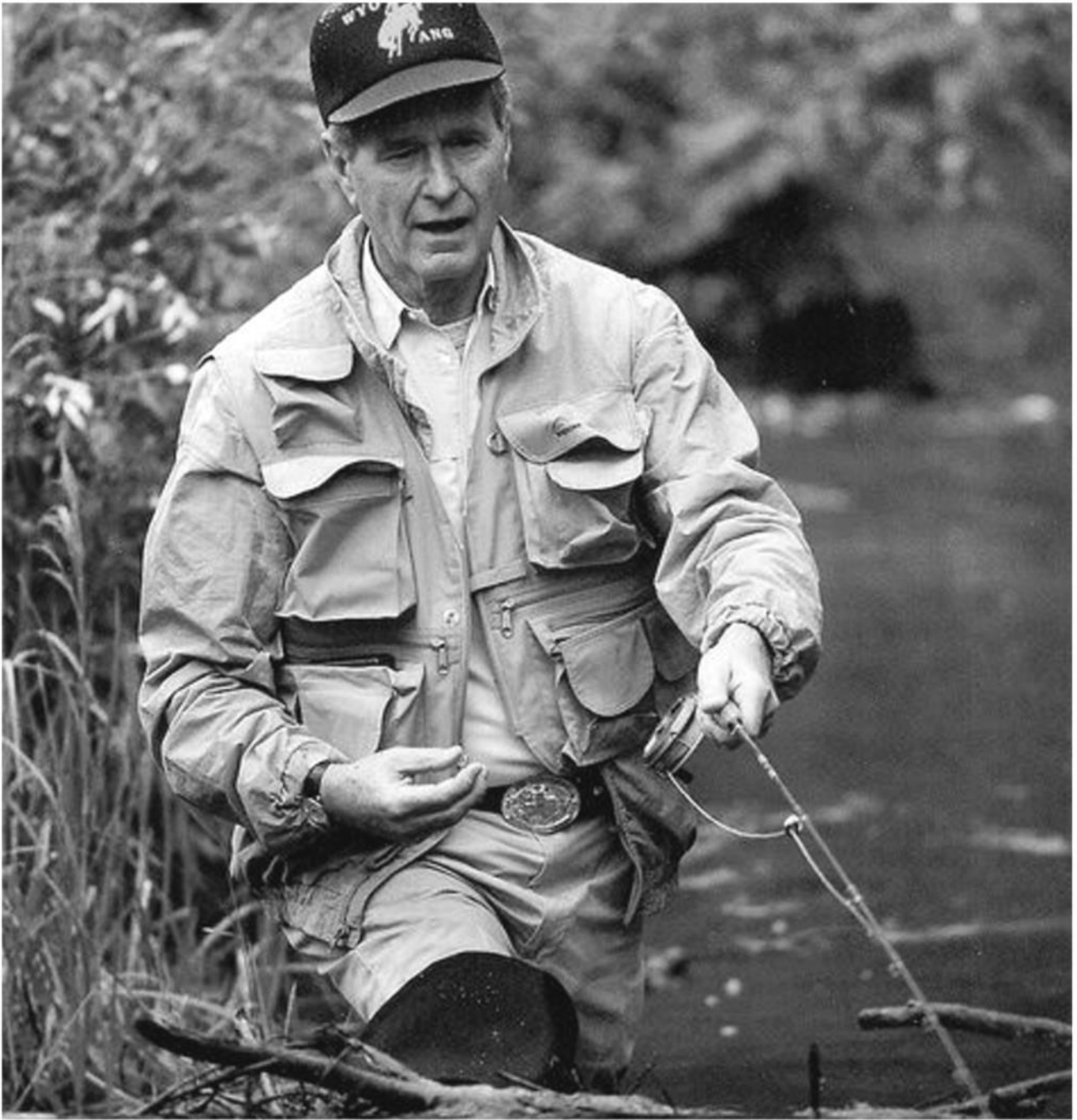
# First Coast Fly Fishers 2017/2018 Programs

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>Our Oceans are Changing</b> <i>Cameron Jaggard, Pew Charitable Trust</i>	✓
August 7, 2017	<b>Redfish in the Grass</b> <i>Capt. James Dumas</i>	✓
September 11, 2017	<b>HURRICANE IRMA</b> <i>Swap Meet FCFF Members</i>	
October 2, 2017	<b>Swap Meet</b> <i>FCFF Members</i>	✓
November 6, 2017	<b>Mangrove Conservation</b> <i>Kyle Rossin, MANG</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 don’t want to sit at the head of the table anymore. I want to go fishing.”

- *George H.W. Bush*  
41<sup>st</sup> President of the United States

## November's Outing...

# Clapboard Creek

This month the Club will be fishing Clapboard Creek, north of the St Johns River. The cooler temperatures mean that the water will start to clear up, making the fish easier to spot. It also means that the fish will be moving a little slower. So using a slow retrieve will garnish the most hook ups.

Clapboard Creek is really the stepping off point for a lot of fishable water north of Heckscher Drive. It is a large body of water situated between Brown's Creek and Cedar Point Creek. The Creek is characterized by wide open areas with small islands, finger creeks, sand bars and lots of oyster beds. Several deep holes can be found around creek bends and oyster mounds that produce large fish.

The creek will produce redfish, trout and flounder. An excellent opportunity for a backcountry slam on the fly. Jacks and Spanish mackerel are not uncommon to these waters as well.

Mike Harrigan, Vice President of Outings, is in the process of picking a date and finalizing the details of the outing. More information about the outing will be available at the November meeting. Keep an eye out for an email with detailed information about the outing.

## Boats

A boat is required for this outing. We will likely put in

at the Palms Fish Camp boat ramp located at the north-east side of the bridge that crosses the mouth of the creek. There is a wide expanse of fishable water easily accessible to smaller boats as well as canoes and kayaks within a short distance of the ramp. To reach some of the more secluded areas of the marsh you will need something with a motor.

If you don't have a boat, we will make sure you are paired up with someone who does. If you can't make the October meeting, you can email Mike Harrigan ([FCFFoutings@gmail.com](mailto:FCFFoutings@gmail.com)) and he will pair you up with one of our members with a boat.

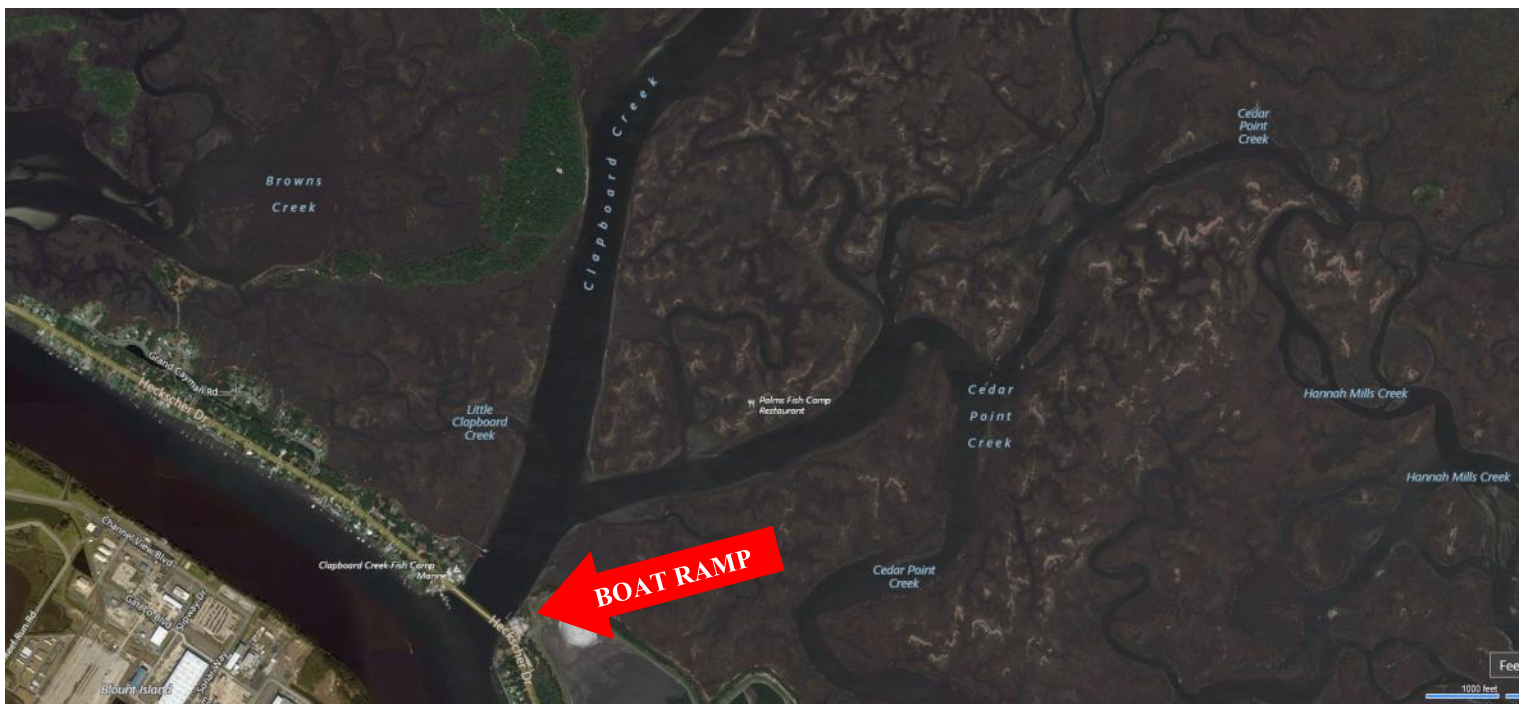
## Flies and Equipment

To be productive, you will need to work a lot of water, casing to oyster beds, creek mouths, grass lines, and potholes. Since you will be making a lot of casts, 7 or 8-weight rods would be ideal. Carry a selection of weighted and non-weighted baitfish and shrimp imitations in various sizes and colors. Change flies repeatedly until you find something that works. When all else fails, a black Clouser Minnow will bring home the groceries.

## More Information

When you are done fishing plan to stick around for the post-outing BBQ. We will be grilling up hot dogs and hamburger at the boat ramp.

If you have questions about the outing, contact Outings Chairman Mike Harrigan at [FCFFOutings@gmail.com](mailto:FCFFOutings@gmail.com).







# Out of this World Fishing Trip

**A**uction house RR Auctions is offering a unique opportunity for a fisherman with the Right Stuff; a 1/2-day guided fishing trip with Apollo 15 Command Module Pilot Al Worden. Apollo 15 took place in July. It was the first mission to the moon which utilized the lunar rover. While astronauts Dave Scott and Jim Irwin explored Hadley Rill, Al orbited overhead in the command module.

According to RR Auction's [website](#):

*Offered here to benefit the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation is a 1/2 day guided fishing charter for two (2) guests accompanied by Apollo 15 Astronaut Al Worden in Cape Coral, Florida, along the beautiful Caloosahatchee River and backwaters of San Carlos Bay and Sanibel Island. This package also includes a \$200 gift certificate to Rumrunners Restaurant. As the Command Module Pilot for the Apollo 15 lunar mission, Worden became one of just 24 people to have flown to the moon. During their homeward journey, Worden performed humanity's first deep-space EVA.*

*Cape Coral is known for its 400 miles of canals, boating, fishing and water sports. Renowned Gulf Coast beaches, verdant golf courses, and nature preserves make Cape Coral an appealing destination for visitors. Within sight of the glimmering Gulf of Mexico, Cape Coral is a vibrant and friendly community with all the beauty that you expect from Southwest Florida.*

*Date: the visit will be arranged at a time and date agreeable to both parties.*

*Please note: winning bidder is to provide their own transportation.*

The auction takes place November 9th through 16th.

Regular reader of the *First Coast Fly Fishers Newsletter*

*ter* are encourage to bid on the trip. However, if you win it is because you outbid the Editor and you hereby agree to take him with you.



## NOVEMBER 2017 TIDES JACKSONVILLE (MAYPORT BAR PILOT DOCK)

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT (FEET)	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT (FEET)	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT (FEET)						
11/1/2017	Wed	12:09 AM	0.7	L	11/11/2017	Sat	2:26 AM	5	H	11/21/2017	Tue	3:22 AM	0.5	L
11/1/2017	Wed	6:42 AM	5.4	H	11/11/2017	Sat	8:15 AM	0.7	L	11/21/2017	Tue	10:13 AM	5.2	H
11/1/2017	Wed	12:34 PM	0.7	L	11/11/2017	Sat	2:54 PM	5.4	H	11/21/2017	Tue	4:14 PM	0.7	L
11/1/2017	Wed	7:03 PM	5.4	H	11/11/2017	Sat	8:57 PM	0.6	L	11/21/2017	Tue	10:28 PM	4.5	H
11/2/2017	Thu	12:54 AM	0.3	L	11/12/2017	Sun	3:33 AM	5.1	H	11/22/2017	Wed	3:55 AM	0.7	L
11/2/2017	Thu	7:31 AM	5.7	H	11/12/2017	Sun	9:19 AM	0.7	L	11/22/2017	Wed	10:49 AM	5.1	H
11/2/2017	Thu	1:25 PM	0.3	L	11/12/2017	Sun	3:57 PM	5.4	H	11/22/2017	Wed	4:53 PM	0.9	L
11/2/2017	Thu	7:51 PM	5.4	H	11/12/2017	Sun	9:53 PM	0.5	L	11/22/2017	Wed	11:08 PM	4.5	H
11/3/2017	Fri	1:40 AM	0	L	11/13/2017	Mon	4:35 AM	5.3	H	11/23/2017	Thu	4:32 AM	0.9	L
11/3/2017	Fri	8:19 AM	5.9	H	11/13/2017	Mon	10:19 AM	0.7	L	11/23/2017	Thu	11:27 AM	5	H
11/3/2017	Fri	2:15 PM	0.1	L	11/13/2017	Mon	4:54 PM	5.3	H	11/23/2017	Thu	5:34 PM	1.1	L
11/3/2017	Fri	8:41 PM	5.4	H	11/13/2017	Mon	10:45 PM	0.4	L	11/23/2017	Thu	11:49 PM	4.5	H
11/4/2017	Sat	2:26 AM	-0.3	L	11/14/2017	Tue	5:30 AM	5.4	H	11/24/2017	Fri	5:16 AM	1.1	L
11/4/2017	Sat	9:09 AM	6.1	H	11/14/2017	Tue	11:15 AM	0.6	L	11/24/2017	Fri	12:08 PM	5	H
11/4/2017	Sat	3:04 PM	-0.1	L	11/14/2017	Tue	5:45 PM	5.2	H	11/24/2017	Fri	6:19 PM	1.2	L
11/4/2017	Sat	9:31 PM	5.4	H	11/14/2017	Tue	11:34 PM	0.3	L	11/25/2017	Sat	12:34 AM	4.5	H
11/5/2017	Sun	2:12 AM	-0.4	L	11/15/2017	Wed	6:19 AM	5.5	H	11/25/2017	Sat	6:07 AM	1.2	L
11/5/2017	Sun	9:00 AM	6.1	H	11/15/2017	Wed	12:07 PM	0.4	L	11/25/2017	Sat	12:52 PM	4.9	H
11/5/2017	Sun	2:54 PM	-0.1	L	11/15/2017	Wed	6:32 PM	5.1	H	11/25/2017	Sat	7:07 PM	1.2	L
11/5/2017	Sun	9:24 PM	5.3	H	11/16/2017	Thu	12:19 AM	0.2	L	11/26/2017	Sun	1:23 AM	4.5	H
11/6/2017	Mon	3:00 AM	-0.4	L	11/16/2017	Thu	7:04 AM	5.6	H	11/26/2017	Sun	7:05 AM	1.3	L
11/6/2017	Mon	9:53 AM	6.1	H	11/16/2017	Thu	12:55 PM	0.3	L	11/26/2017	Sun	1:41 PM	4.9	H
11/6/2017	Mon	3:46 PM	0	L	11/16/2017	Thu	7:15 PM	5	H	11/26/2017	Sun	7:57 PM	1.1	L
11/6/2017	Mon	10:18 PM	5.2	H	11/17/2017	Fri	1:01 AM	0.2	L	11/27/2017	Mon	2:17 AM	4.6	H
11/7/2017	Tue	3:52 AM	-0.2	L	11/17/2017	Fri	7:46 AM	5.5	H	11/27/2017	Mon	8:07 AM	1.2	L
11/7/2017	Tue	10:48 AM	6.1	H	11/17/2017	Fri	1:39 PM	0.3	L	11/27/2017	Mon	2:36 PM	4.8	H
11/7/2017	Tue	4:43 PM	0.2	L	11/17/2017	Fri	7:56 PM	4.9	H	11/27/2017	Mon	8:46 PM	0.8	L
11/7/2017	Tue	11:15 PM	5.1	H	11/18/2017	Sat	1:39 AM	0.2	L	11/28/2017	Tue	3:16 AM	4.8	H
11/8/2017	Wed	4:49 AM	0.1	L	11/18/2017	Sat	8:25 AM	5.5	H	11/28/2017	Tue	9:08 AM	1	L
11/8/2017	Wed	11:45 AM	5.9	H	11/18/2017	Sat	2:20 PM	0.3	L	11/28/2017	Tue	3:35 PM	4.8	H
11/8/2017	Wed	5:46 PM	0.4	L	11/18/2017	Sat	8:35 PM	4.8	H	11/28/2017	Tue	9:37 PM	0.5	L
11/9/2017	Thu	12:14 AM	5.1	H	11/19/2017	Sun	2:15 AM	0.3	L	11/29/2017	Wed	4:14 AM	5	H
11/9/2017	Thu	5:55 AM	0.4	L	11/19/2017	Sun	9:02 AM	5.4	H	11/29/2017	Wed	10:08 AM	0.7	L
11/9/2017	Thu	12:44 PM	5.7	H	11/19/2017	Sun	2:59 PM	0.4	L	11/29/2017	Wed	4:33 PM	4.9	H
11/9/2017	Thu	6:52 PM	0.5	L	11/19/2017	Sun	9:13 PM	4.7	H	11/29/2017	Wed	10:28 PM	0.2	L
11/10/2017	Fri	1:18 AM	5	H	11/20/2017	Mon	2:49 AM	0.4	L	11/30/2017	Thu	5:10 AM	5.3	H
11/10/2017	Fri	7:06 AM	0.6	L	11/20/2017	Mon	9:38 AM	5.3	H	11/30/2017	Thu	11:06 AM	0.4	L
11/10/2017	Fri	1:48 PM	5.6	H	11/20/2017	Mon	3:37 PM	0.5	L	11/30/2017	Thu	5:30 PM	4.9	H
11/10/2017	Fri	7:57 PM	0.6	L	11/20/2017	Mon	9:50 PM	4.6	H	11/30/2017	Thu	11:20 PM	-0.2	L





