

FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

NOVEMBER 2012



November 2012 Meeting

When: November 5, 2012 at 7:00 PM
Southpoint Marriott

Speaker: Norm Zeigler

Topic: Sight Casting for Snook on the Gulf Coast

Norm Zeigler grew up gauging the seasons by the weather and wildlife on the marshes, estuaries and kettlehole ponds of Cape Cod. He earned a BA in English, with a minor in biology, from Clark University in Worcester, Mass. He traveled extensively around the United States and Canada before moving to Germany in 1979.

From 1979-1994 Norm worked for *European Stars and Stripes*, the daily newspaper for Americans in Europe. From 1988-1994 he was the paper's travel/outdoor writer. At the *Stars and Stripes* his travel assignments ranged from Moscow to Edinburgh, from Copenhagen to the Greek Isles and many places in between.

His outdoor assignments included: goose hunting in Eastern Germany; chamois hunting in the Bavarian Alps; trout fishing in Scotland, Denmark, Spain, Germany and other places; pheasant hunting in Yugoslavia (when it still *was* Yugoslavia); skiing in Austria; and camping throughout Europe.

Norm also covered major breaking news, including the exodus of ethnic Germans from the Soviet Union, changes in the Soviet Union under Mikhail Gorbachev, and Vice President Al Gore's 1993 visit to Warsaw. During his years in Europe he also took a leave of absence from *European Stars and Stripes* to work for the fledgling Cable News Network (CNN).

Norm is a member of Trout Unlimited, the Federation of Fly Fishers, the Outdoor Writers Association of America, and Ducks Unlimited. He speaks and writes fluent German and has a private pilot's license.

In November 1994 he moved with his wife, Elizabeth (Libby) Grimm, and their two children, Travis and Katrina, to Sanibel Island, Florida. Norm and his family spend as much time as they can at their original (circa 1868) homesteader's cabin on the Beaverhead River in Dillon, Montana.

Norm is the author of two books: *Rivers of Shadow, Rivers of Sun: A Fly Fisher's European Journal*, and *Snook on a Fly*. Chris Camuto in *Gray's Sporting Journal* called *Rivers of Shadow, Rivers of Sun*, "The best home and away fly fishing book ever written." Bill Tapply, contributing editor to *Field and Stream*, described it as "a beautifully written, utterly engrossing account."

Nick Lyons, doyen of American fly fishing authors, called *Snook on a Fly* "the best introduction I know to a great saltwater game fish." Nelson Bryant, *The New York Times* outdoors columnist for 39 years, praised the book as "a love poem to the snook, a hard-fighting, acrobatic . . . species."

On the Cover:
Thirty-first president of the United States, and ardent fisherman
Herbert Hoover.



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FIRST COAST FLY
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First Coast Fly Fishers Hats

First Coast Fly Fishers hats are coming! Members who have paid their 2013 membership by **February 1st**, will receive one free FCFE 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 Shober at sdshober@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Palm Valley Trout and Reds by Gavin Glover

Sunday I went out to palm valley with my parents and little brother to fish the 6.0 flood at 10:14 AM. The wind was much stronger than expected and the water just as high. We ran down to Pine Island and cut off to the right, where we saw several flats the last outing and went to a flat that had 9 fish the last time we were there and saw three fish right away. I caught a 27 incher which took off across the flat and scared the other 2 fish, after the flood we anchored up at a nice current seam and caught a 17 inch trout. Overall the wind was strong the flood was high and the fishing was great.



Gavin Glover's 27-inch redfish



Gavin and his brother with a nice trout

November Outing

Sisters Creek

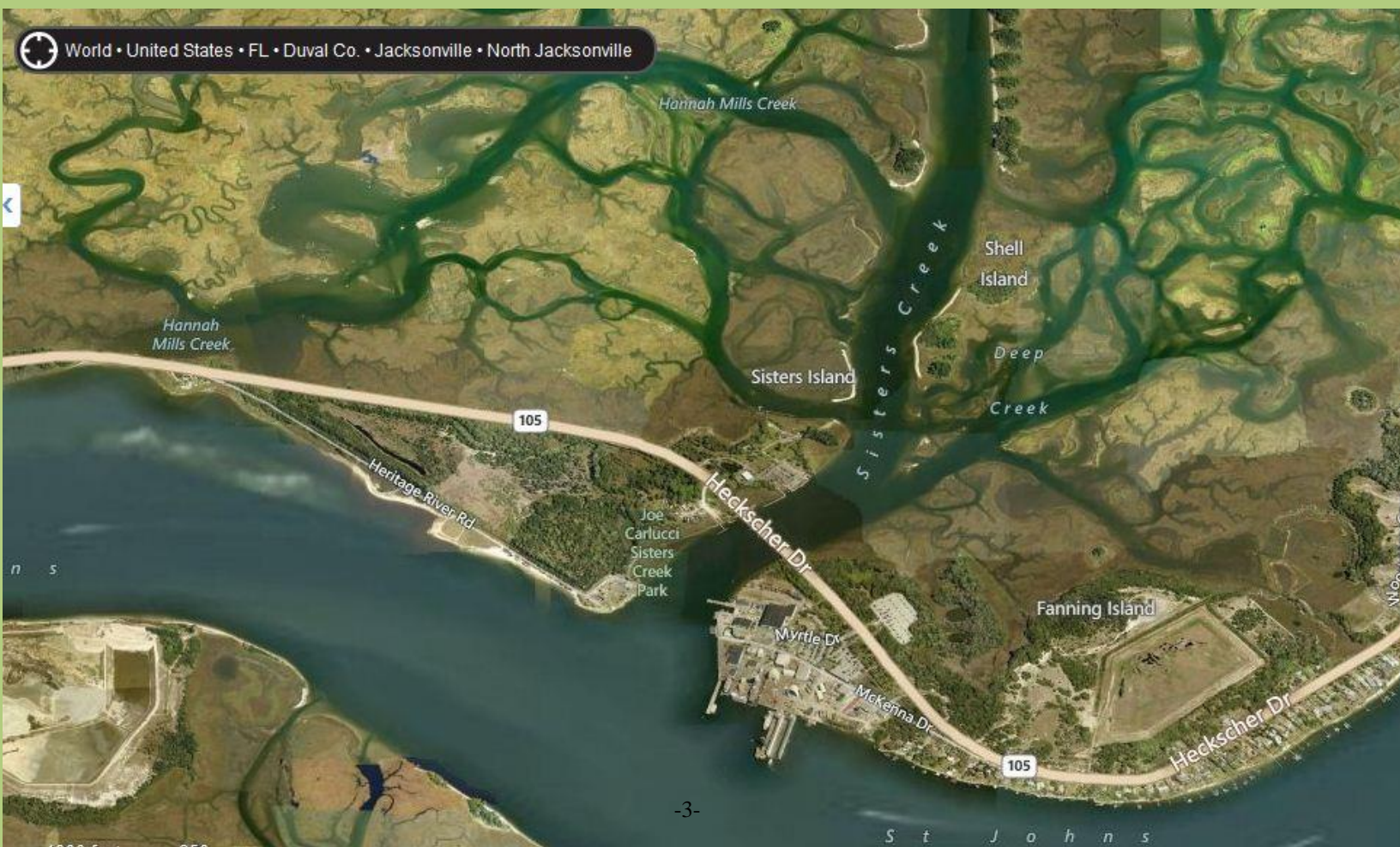
November 17, 2012

The flood tides are gone for another year. So once again it is time to focus on the creeks and mud flats for redfish and trout. The cooler temperatures mean that the water will start to clear making it easier to spot fish laid up on the flats.

Sister's Creek is the perfect spot to launch both paddle craft and motor craft to explore the expanse of creeks and mud flats north of Heckscher Drive. Power boats can launch from Kingfish Park while canoes and kayaks can be launched north of the park.

This month's outing on **November 17th** will focus on the Sisters Creek and all it has to offer. High tide (5.58) is a 11:41 AM and low tide (0.04) is at 5:57 PM. The Club will meet at Kingfish Park before the outing.

More information about the outing will be available at the October meeting and on the Club's web site. If you need additional information, contact Ryan Curley at: rkcurley@yahoo.com



Putting a Boat Away for the Winter?

What You Need to Know About E-10 Gas

ALEXANDRIA, Va.- Nearly full tank or nearly empty tank? That is the big question facing boaters now in the midst of preparing their boats for the long winter hibernation. The concern is ethanol - an octane enhancing gasoline additive that has some unfortunate, harmful side effects on marine engines. Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) has some tips learned from fuel industry insiders on how to store a boat with E-10 gasoline (containing 10% ethanol) over the winter.

The octane issue: Some boaters choose to leave their boat's gas tank mostly empty over the winter, and then refill in the spring in the hopes of "refreshing" the fuel to regain any octane loss. However, a nearly empty gas tank introduces a bigger problem: the strong possibility of phase separation with the E-10 gas. Incidentally, over long winter storage periods, E-10 gasoline loses octane at about the same rate as non-ethanol gasoline.

The path to phase separation: Ethanol (an alcohol) can attract and absorb water - about 10 times more than regular gasoline - and still burn harmlessly through the engine. However, there comes a tipping point when the ethanol can no longer absorb the water, and the alcohol will separate out or "phase separate" from the gasoline. When this happens, the solution of water soaked ethanol will settle to the bottom of the tank, which is where the engine's fuel system pick-up is located. Can you see where we are headed with this?

More water, less absorption: The problem with leaving a tank mostly empty is that it increases the tank's "lung capacity" to breath in moist air (water) through the tank's vent. If the tank is mostly empty over the winter, there will also be less E-10 gas in the tank to absorb the moisture. This combination of more water and less capacity for absorption greatly increases the chances of phase separation. Adding fresh gasoline in the spring would not remedy the problem - the phase-separated ethanol remains separated at the bottom of the tank.

The Water Separator issue: E-10 can hold up to 1/2 percent of water by volume and up to that concentration the water molecules will dissolve in the gasoline forming a soluble mixture that will pass through a water separator and burn harmlessly in your engine. The only time water will collect in a tank and not be absorbed is if phase separation has occurred, and by then it will be too late. A water separator is not a solution to the phase separation problem.

The Fuel Additive issue: Fuel additives are good for many reasons and should be used when laying up a boat for winter, but no additive will stand up to a good-sized slug of water. And once too much water has entered the tank and the gas

has begun to phase separate, no additive will return the fuel to its original state. The only solution to phase-separated gas is to have a professional drain the tank and start anew.

The best advice for storing E-10 in your boat's gas tank over winter:

Keep the tank nearly full. This greatly reduces the volume of moist air that can enter the tank via the fuel tank vent when temperatures fluctuate in the fall and spring. With any fuel, an antioxidant (found in many additives) will help keep it fresh during lay-up. Finally, never plug up a fuel tank vent - it creates pressure that could cause dangerous leaks in the fuel system.

For more information go to www.boatus.com/seaworthy/ethanol.asp. A free, downloadable winterizing checklist is available at <http://www.BoatUS.com/seaworthy/winter>.

About BoatUS BoatUS is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing its over half million members with government representation, services such as boat towing and insurance programs, boating safety programs and money-saving benefits. For membership information visit www.BoatUS.com or call 800-395-2628.



Photo by Woody Huband

Fishing Presidents

By Jason C. Sheasley



This month, Americans will be electing the next leader of the free world. Will Barack Obama be re-elected or will Mitt Romney become the 45th President of the United States? No matter who holds the seat for the next four years, one thing is for

sure, great responsibility comes with the job. Most, if not all, of the Presidents engaged in some manner of recreation to escape, albeit temporarily, the pressures of presidency. Practically all of the presidents turned to fishing in one manner or another while in office. Some, like Barack Obama, viewed fishing as little more than a photo op, while others, like Herbert Hoover considered it a primary avocation. Hoover said fishing provides *"one of the few opportunities given a president for the refinement of his soul and the clarification of his thoughts by solitude."*

The following is a summary of some of this Nation's most notable fishing presidents.

George Washington, 1st President (1789 to 1797)

Records of Washington's recreational piscatorial pursuits are limited. However, it is widely understood that President engaged in fishing for both sport and profit. While George is known to have occasionally fished for pleasure, he is best known as a commercial fisherman. From his home at Mount Vernon, one of the President's enterprises included overseeing the commercial fishing of the Potomac River. During the sweltering summer of 1787, amid the Continental Convention, our nation's first President would occasionally break from trials of drafting the backbone of this nation to fish the Delaware River in Valley Forge. It is reported that on three separate occasions, Washington set aside time during the drafting of the Constitution to do a little

fishing at Valley Forge. In his book *Founding Fish*, John McPhee argues that during the spring of 1778 Washington's fishing prowess came in handy. The Continental army camped at Valley Forge, were in dire straits for food, so General Washington directed his men to fish for shad. The fish were supposedly caught in nets and weirs, then salted down in barrels for future use.

Chester A. Arthur 21st President (1818 to 1885)

Chester A. Arthur succeeded James Garfield as president following his assassination. This Republican lawyer was reportedly born in Fairfield, Vermont and raised in upstate New York. However, it has been alleged, but never proven, that Arthur was actually born in Quebec, Canada. During his presidency, Arthur oversaw sweeping civil service reform. The 21st President was a skilled fly fisherman. He was a member of the prestigious Restigouche Salmon Club, a group of New York anglers that often traveled to Canada to fish. Arthur reportedly held an record for catching a 50 pound Atlantic salmon along the Cascapedia River in Canada. He is known for helping to popularize the sport of fishing while in office and reportedly once said, *there is nothing I love more than fishing for salmon.*

Grover Cleveland, 22nd and 24th President (1885 to 1889 and 1893 to 1897)

Grover Cleveland is the only US President to serve two non-consecutive terms. Probably more than

*Fishing is great
discipline in the
equality of men
because all men
are equal before
fish.*

**-Herbert Hoover
31st US President**

any other president with the exception of Theodore Roosevelt, Cleveland is best known as an avid outdoorsman. When it came to fishing, the President was a bait fisherman. During his second term in office, Cleveland would often spend his summers in Cap Cod where he daily fished for bluefish and weakfish on Buzzards Bay as well as bass on the inland freshwater lakes. After his retirements, Grover Cleveland often wrote about hunting and fishing for the *Saturday Evening Post*. In his 1901 arti-

Fishing Presidents

(Cont.)

cle, “Defense of Fisherman” the former President opined: *In these sad and ominous days of mad fortune-chasing, every patriotic, thoughtful citizen, whether he fishes or not, should lament that we have not among out countryman more fishermen.*

Warren G. Harding 29th President (1921 to 1923)

Republican Warren G. Harding was the first newspaper publisher to be elected to the nation’s highest post. During his short two year presidency, Harding promoted fiscal responsibility as well as civil rights for African-Americans. Harding is also noted for signing the Lodge-Fish joint resolution approving the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. However, Harding is most notoriously associated with the Teapot Dome scandal in which Secretary of the Interior Albert Fall granted drilling rights to the Navy petroleum reserve at Teapot Dome in exchange for kickbacks. Harding, known at the last of the “do-nothing presidents” was well know for his extravagant fishing If vacations to Alaska. Harding would often join Henry Ford, Thomas Edison and Harvey Firestone on fishing excursions along Florida’s Gulf Coast.



Warren G, Harding landing a fish during one of his many fishing trips.

Herbert Hoover, 31st President (1929 to 1933)

Serving in office on the eve of the Great Depression, historian will long argue the merits of Herbert



Herbert Hoover on a trout stream in California

Hoover’s presidency. However, one this is for sure, of all the presidents, he was the most ardent of fisherman. His life-long passion for fishing began while he was growing up in Iowa where Hoover spent his youth fishing Wapsinoc Creek. As a mining engineer, he traveled throughout the West and fished some of its famous rivers like the Rogue, McKenzie, Willamette and Columbia before they were dammed and over fished. While President, he used his own money to construct Rapidan Camp in Madison County Virginia as a retreat for he and his wife. Rapidan Camp, or Camp Hoover as it was often known, was a precursor to Camp David. Hoover would often escape to the 164-acre camp either alone or with guest to fish the many streams that flowed through the surrounding Shenandoah Mountains. In 1964, the year before he died, Herbert Hoover published *Fishing for Fun: And to Wash Your Soul*, his treatise on his passion for fishing.

Dwight D. Eisenhower 34th President (1953 to 1961)

After serving as the Supreme Allied Commander during World War II, Ike reluctantly accepted the Republican Party’s nomination for president in 1951. As the story goes, Eisenhower’s brother Milton, an avid fly fisherman and president of Pennsylvania State University, invited Ike to go fishing on Pennsylvania’s famed Spruce Creek. It was there while casting flies to rising trout that Milton convinced his brother to run for President. Ike shared a lifelong passion for fishing with his four brothers. He was particularly fond of trout fishing usually, keeping and cooking his catch over an

Fishing Presidents

(Cont.)



Ike (second from the left) and his four brothers fishing a like in Wisconsin.

open fire. Eisenhower attempted to teach his Vice President, Richard Nixon, the finer points of fly fishing. However, as historian Stephen Ambrose pointed out, *In casting, as in politics, Eisenhower was terribly earnest in his attempts to educate Nixon, with frustrating results in both cases.* His love of fly fishing was well known during his presidency. It was common for constituents to send him gifts of flies, rods and reels. According to Eisenhower, *there are three sports I like for all the same reasons - golf, fishing and shooting - because they take you into the fields... they induce you to take at any one time two or three hours, when you are thinking of the bird, the ball or the wily trout. Now, to my mind, it is a very healthy and beneficial thing, and I do it whenever I get a chance.*

Jimmy Carter 39th President (1977 to 1981)

History has not been kind to the man from Plains, Georgia. He is widely considered to be the worst President in modern history. During his presidency the country endured record high inflation and skyrocketing gas prices. Two years into his presidency, 52 Americans were captured and held hostage for 444 days by a group of Islamic students in Iran. All of these factors lead to Carter's defeat to Ronald Reagan in 1980. Carter is best known for the humanitarian efforts he undertook after he left office, which netted him a Nobel Peace Prize in

2002. Carter is an avid fly fisherman. Often, while in office, he would escape to central Pennsylvania to fly fish Loyalsock, Spruce and Fishing Creeks. Carter has written a number of books since leaving office including *An Outdoor Journal: Adventures and Reflections* in which he discusses his passion for fly fishing and the outdoors.

George H.W. Bush 41st President (1989 to 1993)

The nation's oldest living president lived a full life before becoming leader of the free-world. He enlisted in the Navy on his 18th birthday and became the youngest aviator in the Navy at the time. He survived being shot down over the Pacific then graduated from Yale after World War II. He would move his family to west Texas where he entered the oil business and became a millionaire by the age of 40. He entered into politics in the 1960s first serving in the US House of Representatives then assuming several cabinet positions including UN Ambassador, US Envoy to China and Director of the CIA. In 1988, Bush became the first serving Vice President to become elected President since Martin Van Buren in 1836. Bush is an avid fisherman and conservationist. During his presidency, Bush established 56 new wildlife refuges and initiated activities to protect and restore 3,000,000 acres of wetlands.



Former President George H.W. Bush with a 130 pound tarpon caught off the Florida Keys.

No angler merely watches nature in a passive way. He enters into its very existence.

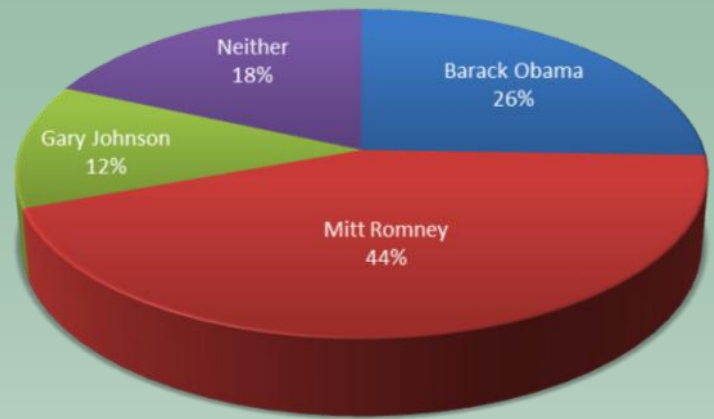
-John Bailey

Who Would You Take Fishing?

In a very unscientific and unbiased poll, members of the FCFE Forum were asked *If you had the opportunity, which 2012 presidential candidate would you like to take fly fishing?* Members were given the option of:

- A) Incumbent and Democratic Nominee Barack Obama,
- B) Republican Nominee Mitt Romney,
- C) Libertarian Nominee Gary Johnson, or
- D) Neither

The results are in! Forty-four percent of the members participating in the poll would much rather take Mitt Romney fly fishing than either Barack Obama or Gary Johnson.



Don Edlin with one of the last reds in the

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FCFF SHIRTS



FRONT

The new FCFF Shirts are here!

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. 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.



BACK



This Shirt is Guaranteed to Catch Fish!

Gag Grouper, Atlantic Vermillion Snapper Season Closures Start Nov. 1

The recreational harvest season for gag grouper in most Gulf of Mexico waters and vermillion snapper in the Atlantic Ocean will close on Nov. 1. These closures are intended to reduce over-fishing and increase the population of gag grouper and vermillion snapper.

The gag grouper recreational harvest season in Gulf of Mexico state and federal waters will close Nov. 1, with the final day of harvest being Oct. 31. This closure does not include state waters off Franklin, Jefferson, Wakulla and Taylor counties, which were open April 1 through June 30 this year, or state waters off Monroe County, which is currently open through Dec. 31 and is included in Atlantic gag grouper seasons and rules. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manages marine fish from the shore to nine nautical miles in the Gulf of Mexico.

The recreational harvest of vermillion snapper closes Nov. 1 in all state and federal Atlantic waters off Florida. State and federal waters off Monroe County that are south and east of U.S. 1 are included in this closure. The FWC manages marine fish from the shore to three nautical miles in the Atlantic.

Learn more about the Florida recreational saltwater fishing at MyFWC.com/Fishing (click on “Saltwater” and “Recreational Regulations”).

Media contact: Kevin Baxter, 727-896-8626

Mystery Eyeball Appears to be from Swordfish

After examining an eye found on a south Florida beach this week, researchers from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) believe the specimen came from a swordfish. Genetic testing will be done to confirm the identification.

“Experts on site and remotely have viewed and analyzed the eye, and based on its color, size and structure, along with the presence of bone around it, we believe the eye came from a swordfish,” said Joan Herrera, curator of collections at the FWC’s Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg. “Based

on straight-line cuts visible around the eye, we believe it was removed by a fisherman and discarded.”

The approximately softball-size eye was recovered by a citizen in Pompano Beach on Wednesday. FWC staff received the eye later that day. Swordfish are commonly fished in the Florida Straits offshore of south Florida at this time of year.

A highly migratory fish, swordfish can be found from the surface to as deep as 2,000 feet. Swordfish in the Atlantic can reach a maximum size of over 1,100 pounds, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Swordfish feed on a wide variety of fish and invertebrates.



Surf & Turn NOT!

By Don Edlin

My brother Ron and I went out with Dave Borries on October 18th with the objective to get a surf Red and a Grass Red. Good news is that my brother caught a humongous Red in the surf off of Bird Island. It was really rough, the water was dirty and the Reds were very difficult to see. I hooked two but only landing one. Ron also got a nice size Jack Cravelle.

We then went for the turf part. We searched and searched and went to many different flats. It was a good flood but we never saw the first fish. For some reason the Reds were not on the east side of the Intra-coastal today. So much for the Surf and Turf in the same day. But my brother is happy that he finally got relief and felt the tug of a fish on the end off a fly rod. We ended the day by catching lots of good size keeper trout with that made a great meal later on in the evening.

SAVE THE DATE

February 16, 2013

**FCFF Annual
Banquet Featuring**

**Dr. Aaron Adams
(Mote Marine Laboratory)**



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vote?



Happy
Thanksgiving!

