

FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

DECEMBER 2014



Educating, Restoring, Conserving through Fly Fishing



**December 1st, 2014 Meeting
7 PM at the Southpoint Marriott
Jacksonville, FL**

**True Stories from a Florida
Game Warden**

Presented by Bob Lee, FWC (Ret.)

Bob Lee grew up in the small community of Lutz, Florida. In the early 1960s his family purchased 154 acres of land in Levy County near the village of Cedar Key. It was there among his parent's burgeoning cattle ranch that his love of the outdoors flourished. He graduated from the University of South Florida in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. Shortly thereafter, he and his wife moved to Putnam County where he began his career as a water patrol officer with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the precursor to the Fish and Wildlife Commission.



In the 1970s, poaching in Putnam County was rampant. For a young, newly minted, twenty-four-year-old wildlife officer, it was an opportunity to test his mettle. The solitary work among the swamps and thickets of the Florida backcountry, searching out harden wildlife crooks fit his personality. He rose through the Commission's ranks to become a lieutenant in 1989. Eventually he would become the land patrol supervisor for Putnam, St. Johns and Flagler Counties. A position he retained until he retiring in 2007

During his distinguished career, Bob experienced his share of adventure and encountered a host of interesting characters on both sides of the law. In 1995 he decided to write about some of his experiences. His stories have been published in Florida Sportsman, Florida Wildlife, Self Reliance Illustrated, Law Officer, Police, SWAT and International Game Warden . In 2013 he published Backcountry Lawman: True Stories from a Florida Game Warden.

Be sure to join us on Monday December 1st as we welcome Bob Lee and listen to his stories from Florida's backcountry. Copies of Bob's book will be available for \$25 prior to the start of the meeting. It makes an excellent holiday gift for your favorite Florida outdoorsman.

On the Cover:

**Lew Holliday sporting the colors at last year's Bob Clouser Day
Photograph by Jason Sheasley**



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FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

PO BOX 16260
JACKSONVILLE, FL32245-6260



The Straight Line Path Extended

By John Symonds

We fly casting instructors are indebted to Bill and Jay Gammel, who popularized the concept of Straight-Line Path (SLP) in their seminal fly casting book, *The Essentials of Fly Casting*.

The straight-line path, which they describe, is an imaginary line that the rod tip travels from the beginning of the cast to the launch point, when the fly-line is released. In reality the rod-tip may deviate from the straight line due to the physical limitations of the caster and the response of the equipment, however, the more closely the tip follows a straight line the greater the energy that is transferred into the line, up to the launch point.

Where does the straight line path actually begin and how is it achieved?

Most of us casters are familiar with the straight-line path concept, but how many of us appreciate that this straight line can be extended beyond the rod-tip to the tip of the fly-line, or along as much of the fly-line as possible depending on the type of cast? With a skilled caster this happens intuitively during false casting - but it is not so obvious in a Roll or Spey cast. Many casters find difficulty in accomplishing these tasks because they have not brought the rod-tip back far enough during the set up for the forward cast and as a consequence the fly-line is not straightened during delivery, albeit partially straightened in some casts. So first and foremost, during the setup stage of the cast, the fly-line must be positioned behind the rod-tip so that as long a length as possible is lined up straight behind it.

By doing this, the pulling force of the rod-tip will be directed into the fly-line and the energy losses due to random directional forces will be minimized, thus ensuring maximum energy transfer into the fly-line.

To make this clearer, visualize the fly-line as being converted from a limp object into a straight, rigid object that can be projected, much like a javelin or spear. Once the fly-line is aerialized behind the rod tip, it is laden with kinetic energy. If the rod-tip is stopped abruptly the fly-line will continue along the straight-line path. The distance that it rolls out will depend upon the

losses caused by loop size, wind resistance, surface drag on the top leg of the fly-line, and the pull of gravity. There should be just sufficient kinetic energy in the fly-line to make it turn over completely.

Next, the casting stroke length and arc angle must be adjusted to ensure that the loading deflection of the rod tip coincides with the imaginary straight-line path. This is dependent on the characteristics of the fly rod and also the skill of the caster. As a rule of thumb, the longer the fly-line, the greater its mass and so the more it will load the fly rod. When the rod-tip deflects more, the casting arc angle needs to be wider so that the rod tip finishes at a lower level. Also, the acceleration phase must increase accordingly, in order to line up the greater length of fly line behind the rod tip in as close to SLP as possible. Furthermore, the line launch speed must be higher to transfer the additional kinetic energy produced from the additional length of line outside the rod tip.

The lowest point of the rod-tip determines the height of the SLP, above the water level, as it moves through the casting stroke. This occurs when there is a minimum chord length between the rod-tip and rod-butt (see image below). This is also the point of maximum acceleration of the rod-tip and maximum rod loading. Therefore maximum rod loading should be made to occur when the minimum chord length is perpendicular to the straight-line path.

To maintain the straight line path up to the launch point, it is essential that, at the end of the casting stroke, the rod-tip is stopped as briskly as possible before it drops too far below the straight line. It may not be obvious but the stop should occur immediately after maximum rod loading (MRL), which is much earlier than where a caster would stop intuitively, especially if there has been an insufficient length of fly-line extended behind the fly-line during the setting up phase (back cast).

Counterflex occurs after the rod-straight position (RSP). This is the primary energy source for loop shape, but not necessarily loop size. Counterflex doesn't make a useful contribution to the kinetic energy of the in-flight line



The straight line path is extended along the fly-line and if possible to the line-tip.

At the beginning of the casting stroke the fly-line should be as straight as possible and lined up behind the rod-tip. This will ensure that the force applied from the rod-tip will be directed along the fly-line and so the minimum amount of energy will be lost.

← Straight-Line Path →

Continued tracking of the straight line path (in all planes) by the rod-tip will ensure that no unwanted curves, such as tailing loops, will result in fly-line when it is released after the stop.

To maintain the straight line path it is important that the casting stroke, arc angle and application of power match the length of line that is aerialized.

To create narrow forward loop it is important to maintain a straight line path of the rod-tip from the beginning of the casting stroke to when the rod-tip just begin to deflect, after the rod stop. Any movement of the rod-tip, that deviates from the straight line path, after the release point will determine the shape of the aerialized fly-line as it rolls out. This can be used to make mend.



because this was determined at the launch point, which occurs at the rod straight position. After this, no further energy can be fed into the line apart from that which causes loops or mends to occur. Stopping the rod-tip high will direct the fly-line compression, caused by the counterflex, into the fly-line rather than making unsightly waves in the lower leg of the fly-line.

When making longer casts it can be advantageous to throw the line back high and then drift back, following the line with the rod-tip, whilst the fly-line is turning over, and allow the fly-line to fall, under the influence of gravity, until it lines up with the straight-line path. Note that the straight-line path need not be horizontal to the water. It can be sloping up or down depending on wind conditions or the launch trajectory that is chosen by the caster. Often distance casters will prefer to cast upward to give longer flight duration before the line falls due to the pull of gravity.

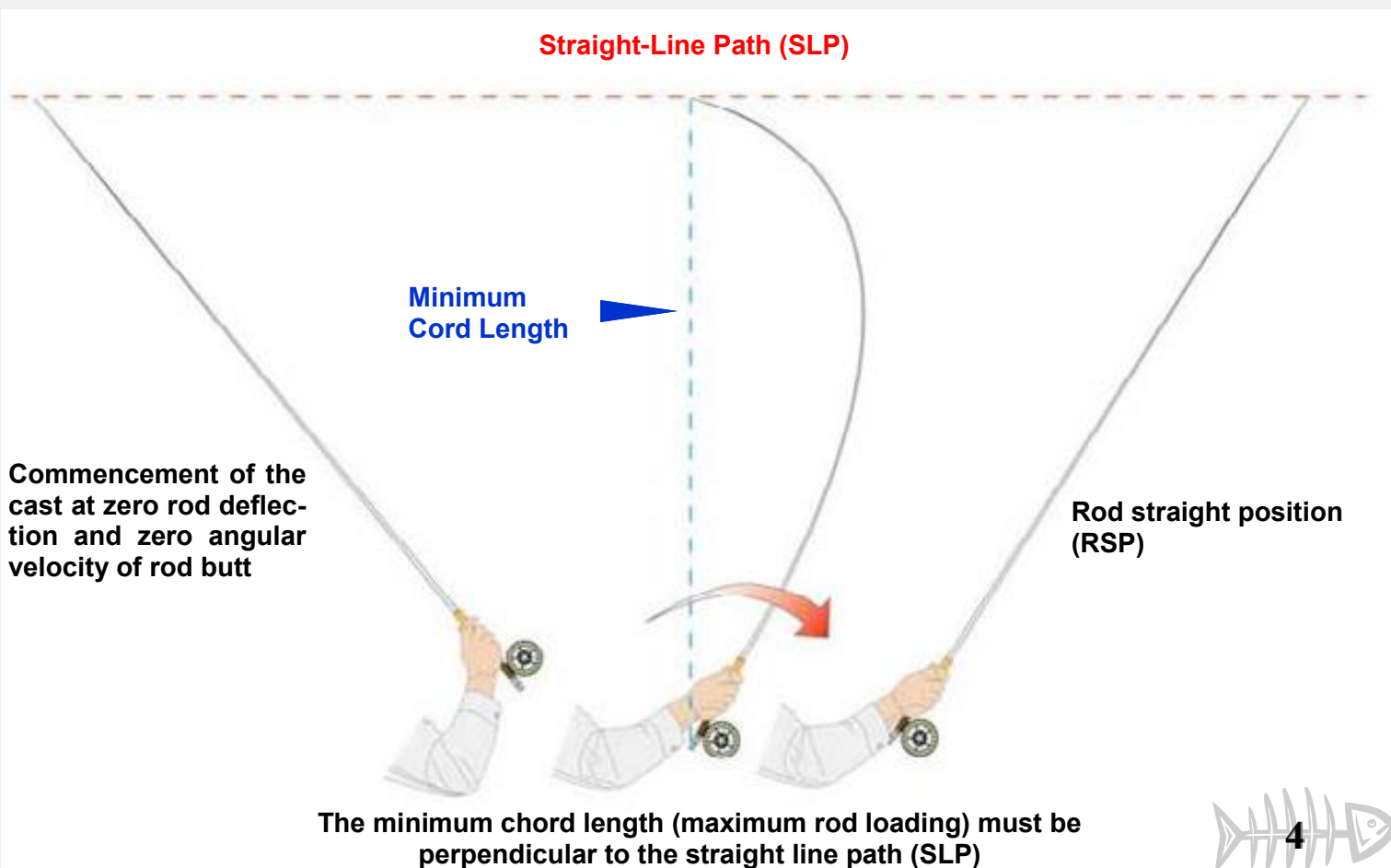
Deviation from the straight-line path will not only reduce energy efficiency, but it can cause tailing or open loops and tracking issues. Don't forget that the straight-line rule applies to all viewing aspects including looking from above the caster as well as looking from the side. A useful tip for checking that the fly-rod is tracking a straight line is to observe the fly-reel and to make sure that its orientation (direction in which it is point-

ing) does not change throughout the casting stroke. The elevation of bottom leg of the line loop will be determined by where the rod-tip stops after counterflex and the loop size will depend upon the distance the rod-tip falls from the theoretical straight-line path.

This is employed in Task 1 of the MCI Performance Test to vary the loop size.

Many casters have difficulty with roll casting 50 ft. of fly-line (Task 6 in the Master Fly Casting Instructor Performance Test). This task can be made easier by applying the SLP principal, even though this is a compromise because the fly-line cannot be fully extended behind the rod-tip. To overcome this limitation the caster should reach back as far as possible with the rod-tip, allowing at least part of the fly-line to be pulled along a straight line. By stopping the rod-tip high at the end of the casting stroke, a relatively tight loop will be formed, enabling a reasonable turnover to be accomplished.

This technique can also be applied in all Spey casts because, essentially, they all end in a dynamic roll-cast. One of the most common faults in Spey casting is not reaching back far enough whilst circling up to form the D-loop and not leading the fly-line around, under tension, up to the straight-line path. Many casters release control of the fly-line during this phase of the cast,



making completion less efficient.


Pulling and launching the fly-line in a straight line by necessity will mean that the rod-tip is being accelerated to maintain tension and that there is no slack, thus fulfilling two more of the essential requirements for a good cast.



John Symonds is an author, writer, and keen fly-fisherman who fishes for salmon, trout and grayling in and around the Welsh borderlands. He frequently travels in search of other species.

He became a certified casting instructor and guide as a retirement occupation and has successfully qualified to Advanced Professional Game Angling Instructors (APGAI) single- and double-handed levels, and is an International Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) Twohanded Casting Instructor (THCI).

John's other interests include photography and graphic design which he uses to convey the basic skills required by fly-fishers in most branches of the sport.

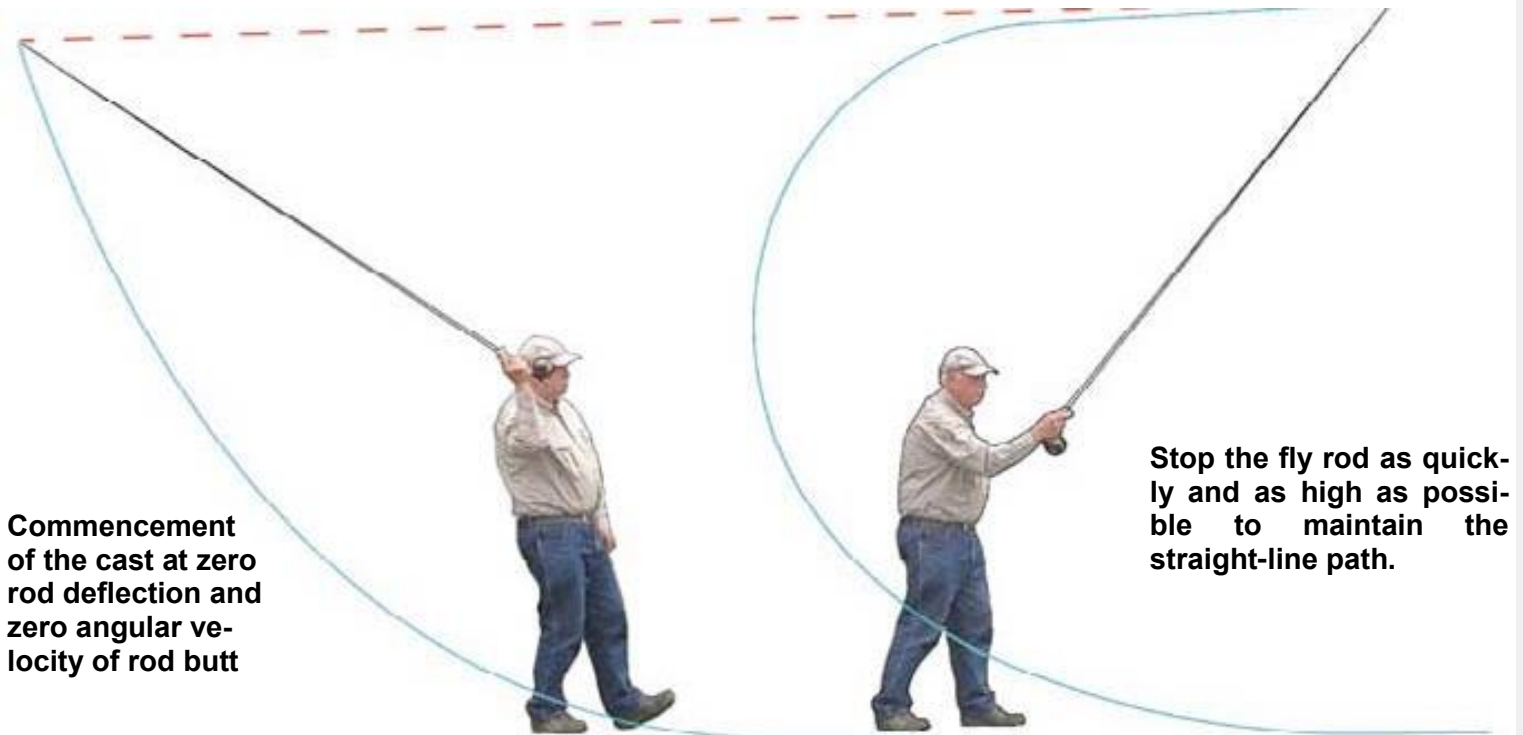


David Lambert, MCI
Master Casting Instructor
Author/Writer
Bon Vivant
904-241-4163
www.southernersjournal.com
smartcasts@gmail.com



www.dumfish.net

Attempt to move the rod tip along a straight-line path even though this is a compromise, pulling the fly-line, in a straight line, behind then rod-tip.



Attempting to achieve a straight line path in a roll cast.



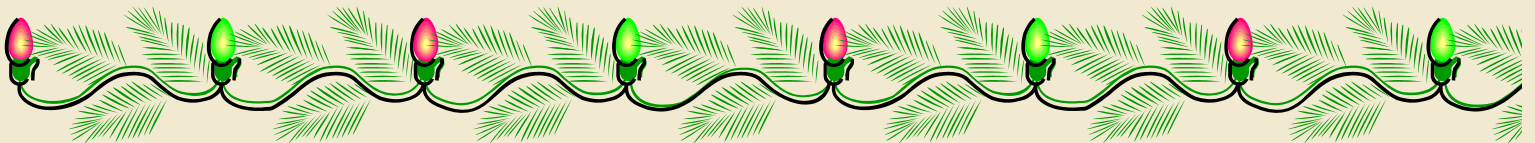
SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 21, 2015

FCFF Annual Banquet

Featuring

Jon B. Cave

More information coming soon.
Banquet tickets will be available in January



**BOB
CLOUSER**

Wants You
To Renew Your
Membership To The
First Coast Fly Fishers!

Avoid the rush and renew now!

We will be accepting your 2015 membership dues at the December meeting. Remember the FCFF membership is a Family Membership and covers your immediate family.

This holiday season, consider sharing the passion of fly fishing and give a membership to the FCFF as a gift to a friend or loved one.



Alaskan Trip of a Lifetime

By Seth Nehrke

I finally got to do my Alaska dream trip. We flew from Anchorage to Dillingham in southwestern Alaska. From there we flew by bush plan to Pegati Lake. We spend the week floating 90 miles of the Kanektok River in rafts, making camp along the way. Trip was phenomenal. We had incredible weather, it was sunny with spats of rain instead of the other way around.



First fish of the trip



Capt Dave with a dolly



Rainbow caught on a flesh fly

The first night we caught grayling and dolly varden.

The next two days it was dolly varden with a few rainbows thrown in.



Naptime!



30" dolly varden



Rainbow!



One of the locals

We spent two days catching rainbows. They were all over the flesh flies drifted around the root wads. It was pretty amazing to see some of these slobs come up and chow. My buddy had the biggest of the trip at 28 inches, my best was 26 inches! The colors on these leopard rainbows is truly beautiful.

The 3 guides were absolutely amazing. The set up and broke camp daily, and pampered us with gourmet food.

One of the guides actually made pineapple upside-down cake in the dutch oven one night to top off the biggest pork chops I have ever seen! These guys were the real deal. Trip was exhausting, but absolutely incredible. I had my dream trip in my mind but these guys handily exceeded my expectations. We pretty much caught fish till our hands were bleeding and then caught some more! Can't wait to go back...time to start saving those pennies!

CCA St. Augustine Chapter Banquet & Auction



December 4, 2014

The Northeast Florida Marlin Association

6:00 PM Silent Auction and Raffle

7:30 Dinner and Live Auction

Featured Artist: Vaughn Cochran

Creator of the Blackfly Brand



For More Information Contact:

Nick Pectol (321) 271-7723

Or

Adam Miller (941) 270-0895

<http://www.ccaflorida.org/cca-florida-chapters/st-augustine>



CCAFlorida

So...You Wanna be a Fish Guide

Story and Artwork by Bob White

As the de Havilland Beaver lifted off Lake Hood, I left my past behind and began the journey toward a new life. It was my first time in a small plane, and I was fascinated with the choreography of flying. The Boss seemed to be doing three things at once; he turned away from Anchorage, climbed to altitude, trimmed the plane, and headed west across Knik Arm, all the while talking to the tower. I sat in the right seat alternately staring out at the landscape below me, and pondering all of the engine and flight instruments. I had a thousand questions, but it was impossible to talk comfortably over the roar of the big radial engine. As excited as I was, I drifted off to sleep.

"Do you know how to fly this thing?" The Boss yelled over the roar of the engine. I was instantly awake. I don't know how long I'd been asleep, but the gentle rolling hills and boreal forests below us had changed into craggy, wind swept mountain tops covered in snow; seemingly right off the wing tips. Broad glaciers twisted away as far as I could see, and a silted and boulder strewn river braided it's way through the sterile and tortured valley below.

"I said do you know how to fly?" The Boss hollered again.

The look on my face must have been answer enough. The Boss rolled his eyes as he moved the yoke in front of me.

"Just keep it at this altitude and don't hit anything," he yelled into one of my ears as he released his seat belt and turned around to rummage in the cargo.

God damn it, I know it's here someplace!" I heard him say, as he slithered deeper into the boxes and bags stuffed from floor to ceiling.

I didn't dare take my eyes off the mountain that seemed to loom ever closer in front of us. All I could see out of the corner of my eye was his hip boots.

He reappeared. "Just aim for that mountain", he said, and was gone again.

The Beaver towered straight up like a high-speed elevator. "Just an updraft," he yelled from somewhere behind me. "Keep your attitude straight and level."

Keep my attitude straight and level? Is he telling me not to panic?

A box of groceries shifted and hit me in the back of the head. "I've got it," he said, as he turned and flopped back into his seat in one fluid motion. A deli tray from Carr's was balanced on one knee as he snapped into his harness.

"I just love their sushi!"

We left the mountains eventually and followed one river's meandering course to its source, and over high ground to another. Occasionally we'd break away from whatever river we followed to cut across country, always working south and west. In the distance, a wall of mountains marked the horizon and we headed toward them.



"Almost there." The Boss called out, nodding toward one of the most beautiful lakes I'd ever seen. "It's just around the corner."

We banked around a mountain, which jutted out into the lake, and followed a short river that joined another, smaller lake.

"That's the Wind River," he said. "It empties into Mikchalk Lake. And, there's the lodge."

Long Way From the Net
By Bob White

He turned sharply and pumped in some flaps. *Welcome home.* I thought to myself.

Once on the water, we glided silently to the dock where one of the guides explained to several others, with wild gestures and animal noises, that they weren't working nearly fast enough. The others left, staggering away under their weight in groceries and disappeared into the lodge. The old guide deftly caught the plane and secured it.

"Hi Rusty!" The Boss called out in greeting.

"You have fresh meat, Boss?" Rusty asked, looking at me, and not at the groceries in the back of the plane.

"Yup, meet the new guy".

Rusty looked like a slimmed-down version of Hagrid, from Harry Potter. He had long and bright red hair that stuck out stiffly, and at odd angles, from under his ball cap. The brow of the cap was emblazoned with "Ketchikan Bar". Underneath, was the silhouette of two bears in the act of procreating. His beard was full and wiry, and an even brighter shade of red. His mustache was nicotine stained. He looked me straight in the eyes as we shook hands, and then grabbed one of my duffels and tossed it onto a shoulder. He turned to leave, obviously intending me to follow him, and cackled maniacally, "So... you wanna be a fish guide?"

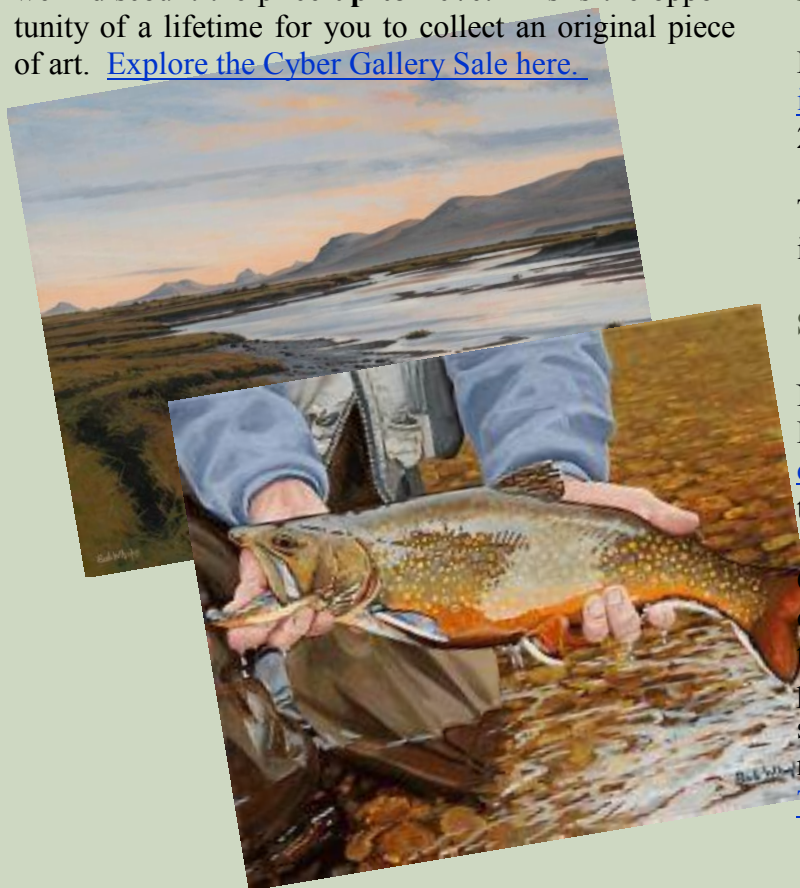


The Classic Sporting Art of
BobWhite

YEAR END SALE!

2014 Cyber Gallery Sale

Purchase any original piece of artwork **between now and the end of the day on Monday, December 1**, and we'll discount the price **up to 70%**. This is the opportunity of a lifetime for you to collect an original piece of art. [Explore the Cyber Gallery Sale here.](#)



Shop early to insure that your favorite painting hasn't been sold. PayPal and credit cards are accepted... checks or money orders are appreciated.

Bob's Annual Print Sale

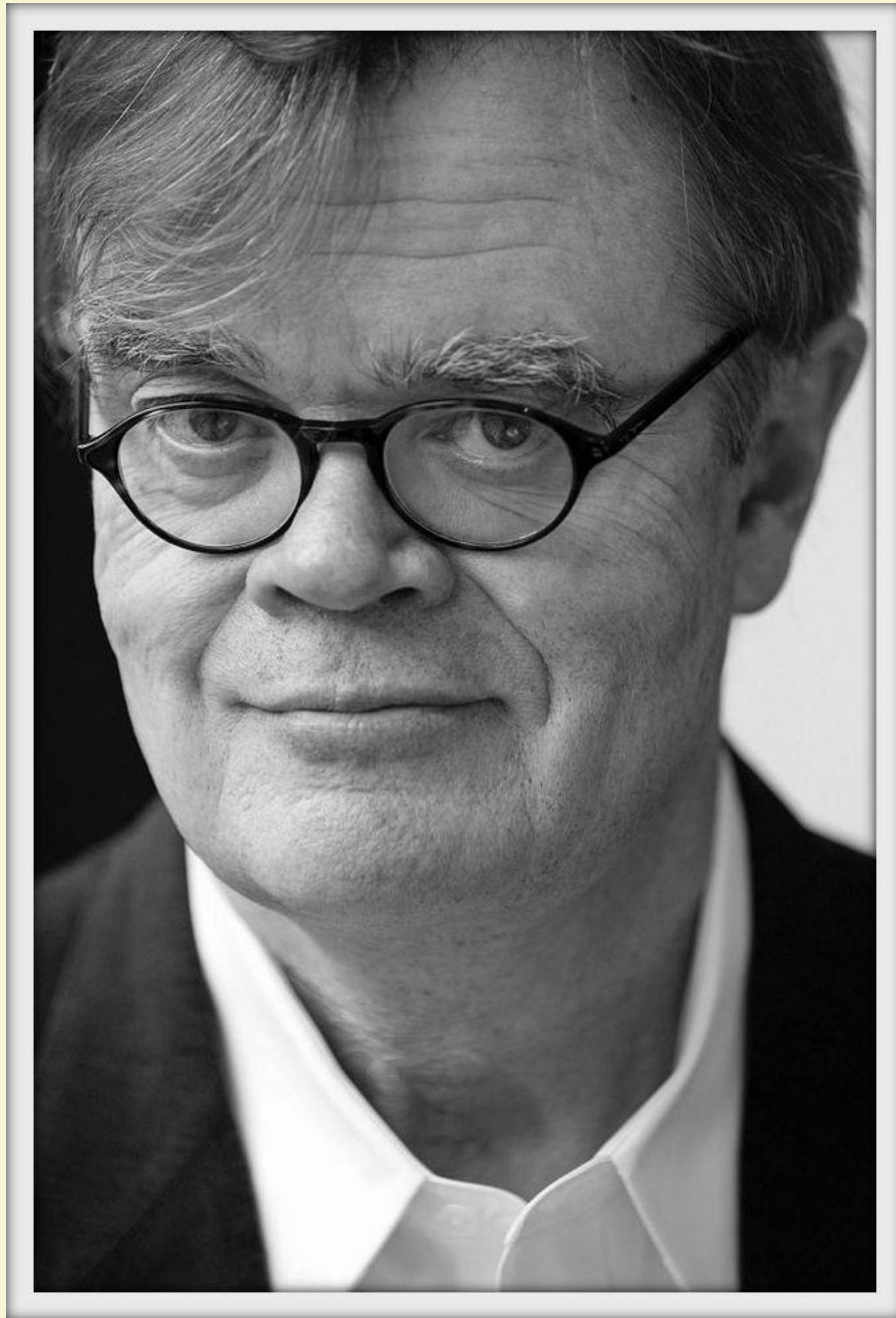
Bob's Annual Print Sale begins now! Purchase any [limited edition print](#) through the end of 2014 and receive a 20% discount.

The sale price will be extended to all of the new prints, including [The Grouse of North America](#).

Sale on Note Cards and Cards for the Holidays

Now is the time to stock up on cards for the holidays. Purchase 4 or more boxes of our [note cards](#) and [holiday cards](#), and receive a 25% discount. This sale is valid through the end of 2014. What a deal!

One of my favorite things to do is to paint images for our Christmas cards. Its always a welcomed opportunity to look back at my childhood and relive those simpler, less troubled times. It's also an honor for us to share them with our friends who value these same memories. Click on the links to order [Rural Deliver](#) or [The Night the Animals Speak](#).



“Thank you, dear God, for this good life and forgive us if we do not love it enough. Thank you for the rain. And for the chance to wake up in three hours and go fishing: I thank you for that now, because I won't feel so thankful then.”

James Fisher



Holiday Gift Guide



Compiled by Jason Sheasley

Once again the holidays are upon us. The shopping malls are full of people hustling and bustling, trying to find the perfect gift for someone special. But who wants to spend the day shopping when there are fat, lazy redfish warming themselves on the mud flats just waiting to be caught?

This year we have taken the guesswork out of what to get that special fly-rodding-someone. [Blackfly Outfitters](#), [Saltwater Fly Tyers](#) and [Black Creek Outfitters](#) have everything you need for your holiday gift giving. Use this list you will avoid the crowds and be back on the water in no time. Remember, shop local and tell them you are a member of the First Coast Fly Fishers.



Stylish and practical. A **Blackfly Buff** is just what the dermatologist ordered to keep the sun off your face, neck and ears. The UV Buff locks 95% of the harmful UV rays.

The Buff was invented by avid motorcyclist and textile manufacturer Joan Rojas in 1991. Rojas was looking for a way to protect himself while riding in the elements. Originally market to ski shops, the Buff has numerous applications in both hot and cold weather; including fly fishing in Northeast Florida.



Cortland makes some of the best fly lines on the market including the **Tropic Plus Redfish** line. Designed for Redfish anglers, these lines feature a shorter front taper that loads quickly and easily turns over larger, air-resistant saltwater flies and poppers. The solid monofilament core has virtually no memory so your line stays tangle-free and ready to cast when fishing in the tight quarters of a canoe or kayak. *Saltwater Flytyers* has a large selection of Courtland lines to suit your particular fishing situation.



ExOfficio's **Give-N-Go School'd boxer shorts** will make your momma proud. Just toss your Give-N-Go's in the laundry or wash them in a sink. Within hours you will have a fresh, dry pair of underwear. Breathable, lightweight, odor resistant and long-wearing, you will toss them into your carry-on for every fishing trip. Best of all your mother will be happy you're wearing clean drawers. Pick up a pair (or two) at *Black Creek Outfitters*.



If you are not familiar with **Howler Brothers** you soon will be. They are taking the outdoor clothing and apparel world by storm. More than a hipster fashion statement, Howler Brothers gear is comfortable as well as fashionable and wears like the skin of a howler monkey. Check out their full line of clothing and apparel at *Blackfly Outfitters*.



If you haven't figured it out by now, they guys (and gals) in the kayaks are catching all the fish. They are able to sneak up on the reds in the skinny water, where you can't or won't take your fiberglass oyster magnet. And after a day of fishing they are laying up with the old lady (or old man) sipping on a cold beer while you are still flushing out the engine and washing down the hull. If this was enough to convince you its time to get a kayak, then head over to *Black Creek Outfit-*

ters and check out the new **Jackson Kracken**. This kayak is designed for some of the most challenging paddling environments in the world and meant to be for the offshore and big lake kayak angler. It's a paddlers fishing kayak! It's designed for punching surf, handling rough off shore currents, swells, beach landings and those wanting ultimate performance when chasing big fish. It comes with plenty of storage and a couple of rod holders.



Aren't you tired of fumbling around the women's cosmetics isle looking for clear fingernail polish to finish your flies? Thanks to *Saltwater Flytyers* you will no longer have to endure strange looks at the checkout when your buying hard-as-nails. Check out **Clear Cure Goo!** This stuff is amazing, it cures instantly under UV light (and only UV light) allowing plenty of working time. When it cures you get a clear hard finish that will break the teeth of your average mako shark.



Tervis Tumblers. They keep cold stuff old and hot stuff hot. And you'll look cool drinking out of one. Whether you are pool side or boat side, if it is worth drinking it is worth drinking out of a **Blackfly Tervis Tumbler**. Get you one, or maybe a set of four.



One essential piece of gear every saltwater fly fisherman should have is a sturdy pair of pliers. They are a must when getting hooks out of toothy fish and pissed off boatmates. Up until recently the good quality corrosion resistant fishing pliers cost in excess of three-hundred large. Why on earth would you want to pay \$300 for a pair of pliers? That's just nuts. Instead of buying another pair of crappy pliers from Harbor Freight, which you are going to throw out in three months, head to *Blackfly Outfitters* and check out the **Hansom AP-6 Pliers**. Priced at under \$60, these pliers will stand up to years of use and abuse and they won't break the bank. Besides, it is a lot easier justifying \$60 pliers to your wife than it is a \$300 pair. If you still need or want a \$300 pair of pliers, the folks at Blackfly have those too and they will be happy to sell you a pair .



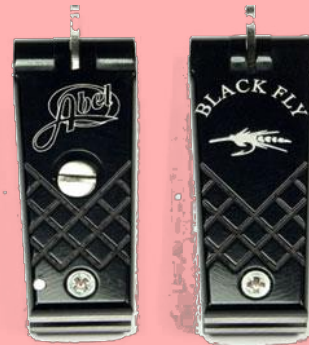
Why spend top dollar on a fly rod only to skimp and buy a P.O.S. reel made in Japan. Get with the program. Hard charging fish take a toll on your gear. The last thing you want is to have the fish of a lifetime on the line only to have your drag freeze up. You won't have that problem with any of the **Hatch Reels** available at *Blackfly Outfitters*. These high quality reels are made here in the U.S.A. by fishermen for fishermen. Do yourself a favor and get a Hatch reel. Anything else makes you look bad and embarrasses the fish.



Think you are going to save some money learning to tie flies? Think again. If you are going to learn to tie flies you might as well go whole hog and get the mac-daddy of vices, the **Dyna-King Barracuda**. This is all the vice you will need or want. This rotary vice employs a forcing cone and cam lever to adjust the right amount of tension on the hook so it won't slip out or move mid-tie. This vice will last a lifetime. You grandkids will be using it to tie flies (assuming you taught them how). Not only will Don at Saltwater Flytyers sell you this vice, he will teach you how to use it to tie some of the best fish-catching flies around.



Amateur filmmaker and fishing guide Troy James has been posting some phenomenal videos of his fishing exploits to the FCF Forum. You can make your own videos (fishing or otherwise) with a **GoPro Hero 4** available at *Black Creek Outfitters*. We only want you posting fly fishing videos to the website. Those other videos you can keep to your self or maybe post them to Youtube. But remember, once it is on the internet it can't be undone. It will be there for the enjoyment or mortification of your children and your children's children. On second thought, maybe you ought to think this GoPro idea out very carefully. Don't say you haven't been warned.



I hate to break it to you, but it is time to give up those rusty and dull fingernail clippers that came with the Avon manicure set along with the funky smelling cologne in a bottle shaped like a stake-body pick-up truck that your mom got you for Christmas when you were twelve. It's time to get a real pair of **nippers** for crying out loud. *Blackfly Outfitters* has some top quality nippers from both Able and Simms that are corrosion-resistant and come in an array of colors. Your mom won't be mad and the guys at the boat ramp will stop talking about you behind your back when you show them you've manned-up.



Children are the future of our sport. Why not share your passion for fly fishing and the outdoors with a child? The **ECHO GECKO** rods were designed by Tim Rajeff with children in mind. No longer do children have to learn to fly fish with a rod that is too long or too stiff and has a handle designed for adult hands. The ECHO GECKO rods have a special diameter handle and a small 2-inch long fighting butt that allows little anglers to cast using two hands. The bright yellow blank and fun colored handle are sure to catch the eye of any young angler. The rod is a great length for trout, panfish and bass. It can handle a short belly 5-weight line or a standard 4-weight line. Stop in at *Saltwater Flytysers* and plan for the future of our sport. Remember, nothing you for children is ever wasted.



With a name like Dr. Slick you'd think he was some kind of shady dude selling stolen fly fishing gear out of the back of a lime green 1975 Ford Granada. Or maybe the name conjures up images of an esteemed graduate of the Liberian School of Medicine offering discount vasectomies. Thankfully, neither is the case. Dr. Slick makes some of the highest quality fly tying supplies including the best scissors on the market. *Saltwater Flytysers* has an entire selection of **Dr. Slick Fly Tying Tools** for your fly tying (and gift-giving) needs. This includes: scissors, boddins, bodkins, hair stackers, dubbing hooks, whip finishers, hackle pliers (rotary and non-rotary), dubbing combs, half hitch tools, bishop tweezers, extra-hand tweezers, bead tweezers (who know there were so many kinds of tweezers), boddin threaders, and hook files. Remember, *Saltwater Flytysers* offers free fly tying sessions every other Wednesday.



It has happened to all of us at one time or another. The fishing is so dang good, we can't give up; not until it is too dark to see. And only then do we realize there isn't a flashlight to be had anywhere onboard. With the **Black Diamond Storm Headlight** there is no longer any reason to be afraid of the dark. This waterproof headlamp emits 160 lumens of light. It is designed to allow on-the-fly brightness adjustments. The various light modes include a strobe and red night vision. An intuitive lock mode prevents the light from coming on accidentally. Find your way to *Black Creek Outfitters* and allow them to shed some light on their wide selection of headlamps and flashlights.



Pack a lot of crap (half of which you never use) when you go fishing? Then you need the **Patagonia Great Divider III**. This 28 Liter bag was built with waterproof, polyurethane-coated nylon, 100% welded construction and a super burly, highly water-resistant main zipper. Outside, there's a small, easy-access, water-resistant zippered pocket, and strap and grab handle attachments. Inside, foam dividers can be arranged in any configuration for storing gear, reels, flies and camera equipment. The single, adjustable shoulder strap and internal divider can be removed so the whole bag packs flat within luggage for streamlined storage. Not only can *Saltwater Flytysers* sell you this bag, they can help you fill it with all you'll need for a day (or two) on the water.

What do you get the fly fisherman that has everything? Simple, a guide trip. Thankfully, some of the best guides in northeast Florida are affiliated with the Club. You can't go wrong booking a trip with any of these guys. From the Matanzas Inlet to the Florida-Georgia, and in-shore or off-shore, these guys have you covered.

While you are at it, why not book a trip for yourself. There are times when all you want to do is just fish and not have to worry about messing with the boat or trying to pole the flats and fish at the same time. Treat yourself and take the hassle out of fishing. Let one of these guys pole you around and put you on fish. Chances are you will have a productive day not to mention pick up a few new tricks. Best of all, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting a

guide who supports the First Coast Fly Fishers.

You will probably find that your biggest problem is picking an open date. These guys are the best in the area and their trips book up months in advance. So, check your calendar and avoid the rush, book a trip today with James, Larry David, Lawrence, Troy or Rich .



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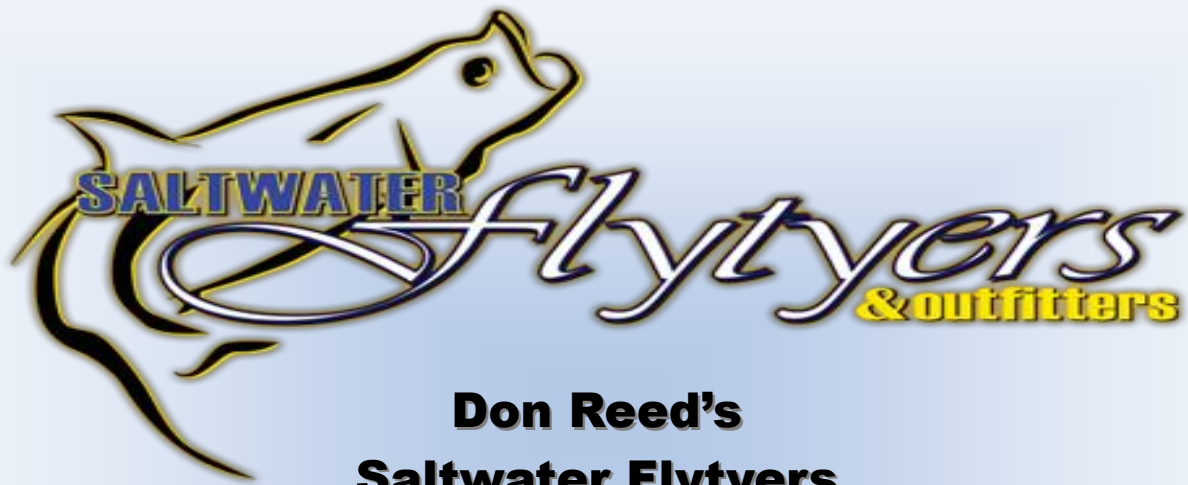
Mike McQuiston's parting shots of a couple redfish caught in the grass along the Guana River.



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A dolphin recently caught by Capt. Troy James off the coast of St. Augustine.



This Month's Outing...



Saturday December 13th

Clapboard Creek

By the time the December outing rolls around the holiday season will be in full swing and no doubt you will be in need of a little escape from it all. So join us on Saturday December 13th as we bring a little yuletide cheer to the redfish of Clapboard Creek. Out in the marsh you will be far removed from the non-stop holiday music, the cheesy office parties and department store Santa Clauses.

Saturday the 14th there is an early morning low tide (0.83 feet) at 7:42 am. We will plan to meet at the Clapboard Creek boat ramp around 7 AM. to fish the incoming tide. Afterward then plan to meet back at the boat ramp for some eggnog and cookies. See the sign-up sheet at the December 1st meeting.

The water temperatures will be dropping, so the redfish will be pushing deep into the creeks and schooling up on the mud flats trying to warm themselves in the morning sun. Stealthy approaches will be the order of the day. Accordingly, you will want a supply of small, lightly weighted flies like Fox Tail Clousers, Johnny Rockets, Merkin Crabs and Kwans.

This will be the last outing for 2014. Join us and be of good cheer. More information about the outing will be available at the December 1st meeting and in subsequent emails. If you'd like to participate in the outing but don't have a boat, contact Jeff Bivins at bivijr-jax2@aol.com. He will make sure you have a ride for the outing.



December 2014 Tides Mayport, Florida (Bar Pilot Dock)

| Date | Time | Height | Date | Time | Height | Date | Time | Height |
|------------|--------------|--------|------------|--------------|--------|------------|--------------|--------|
| 12/1/2014 | Mon 3:53 AM | 5.2 H | 12/11/2014 | Thu 11:38 AM | 4.8 H | 12/21/2014 | Sun 7:55 PM | 4.5 H |
| 12/1/2014 | Mon 9:45 AM | 0.4 L | 12/11/2014 | Thu 5:47 PM | 0.6 L | 12/22/2014 | Mon 1:33 AM | -0.7 L |
| 12/1/2014 | Mon 4:16 PM | 4.9 H | 12/12/2014 | Fri 12:04 AM | 4.3 H | 12/22/2014 | Mon 8:27 AM | 5.4 H |
| 12/1/2014 | Mon 10:06 PM | -0.1 L | 12/12/2014 | Fri 5:53 AM | 0.9 L | 12/22/2014 | Mon 2:23 PM | -0.5 L |
| 12/2/2014 | Tue 4:55 AM | 5.4 H | 12/12/2014 | Fri 12:18 PM | 4.7 H | 12/22/2014 | Mon 8:46 PM | 4.6 H |
| 12/2/2014 | Tue 10:46 AM | 0.2 L | 12/12/2014 | Fri 6:32 PM | 0.8 L | 12/23/2014 | Tue 2:21 AM | -0.8 L |
| 12/2/2014 | Tue 5:16 PM | 4.9 H | 12/13/2014 | Sat 12:49 AM | 4.3 H | 12/23/2014 | Tue 9:17 AM | 5.4 H |
| 12/2/2014 | Tue 11:01 PM | -0.2 L | 12/13/2014 | Sat 6:47 AM | 1.1 L | 12/23/2014 | Tue 3:09 PM | -0.6 L |
| 12/3/2014 | Wed 5:51 AM | 5.5 H | 12/13/2014 | Sat 1:01 PM | 4.5 H | 12/23/2014 | Tue 9:38 PM | 4.7 H |
| 12/3/2014 | Wed 11:43 AM | 0.1 L | 12/13/2014 | Sat 7:17 PM | 0.9 L | 12/24/2014 | Wed 3:11 AM | -0.8 L |
| 12/3/2014 | Wed 6:10 PM | 4.9 H | 12/14/2014 | Sun 1:37 AM | 4.3 H | 12/24/2014 | Wed 10:07 AM | 5.4 H |
| 12/3/2014 | Wed 11:53 PM | -0.3 L | 12/14/2014 | Sun 7:43 AM | 1.2 L | 12/24/2014 | Wed 3:58 PM | -0.6 L |
| 12/4/2014 | Thu 6:43 AM | 5.6 H | 12/14/2014 | Sun 1:48 PM | 4.4 H | 12/24/2014 | Wed 10:31 PM | 4.7 H |
| 12/4/2014 | Thu 12:37 PM | -0.1 L | 12/14/2014 | Sun 8:02 PM | 0.9 L | 12/25/2014 | Thu 4:04 AM | -0.7 L |
| 12/4/2014 | Thu 7:01 PM | 4.8 H | 12/15/2014 | Mon 2:29 AM | 4.4 H | 12/25/2014 | Thu 10:58 AM | 5.3 H |
| 12/5/2014 | Fri 12:43 AM | -0.4 L | 12/15/2014 | Mon 8:38 AM | 1.2 L | 12/25/2014 | Thu 4:51 PM | -0.6 L |
| 12/5/2014 | Fri 7:31 AM | 5.6 H | 12/15/2014 | Mon 2:40 PM | 4.3 H | 12/25/2014 | Thu 11:26 PM | 4.8 H |
| 12/5/2014 | Fri 1:26 PM | -0.2 L | 12/15/2014 | Mon 8:47 PM | 0.8 L | 12/26/2014 | Fri 5:03 AM | -0.4 L |
| 12/5/2014 | Fri 7:49 PM | 4.7 H | 12/16/2014 | Tue 3:25 AM | 4.5 H | 12/26/2014 | Fri 11:51 AM | 5.1 H |
| 12/6/2014 | Sat 1:29 AM | -0.5 L | 12/16/2014 | Tue 9:32 AM | 1.1 L | 12/26/2014 | Fri 5:48 PM | -0.5 L |
| 12/6/2014 | Sat 8:17 AM | 5.5 H | 12/16/2014 | Tue 3:35 PM | 4.3 H | 12/27/2014 | Sat 12:23 AM | 4.8 H |
| 12/6/2014 | Sat 2:12 PM | -0.2 L | 12/16/2014 | Tue 9:33 PM | 0.6 L | 12/27/2014 | Sat 6:09 AM | -0.2 L |
| 12/6/2014 | Sat 8:35 PM | 4.7 H | 12/17/2014 | Wed 4:20 AM | 4.6 H | 12/27/2014 | Sat 12:47 PM | 4.9 H |
| 12/7/2014 | Sun 2:13 AM | -0.4 L | 12/17/2014 | Wed 10:24 AM | 0.9 L | 12/27/2014 | Sat 6:49 PM | -0.4 L |
| 12/7/2014 | Sun 9:00 AM | 5.4 H | 12/17/2014 | Wed 4:31 PM | 4.3 H | 12/28/2014 | Sun 1:24 AM | 4.8 H |
| 12/7/2014 | Sun 2:56 PM | -0.2 L | 12/17/2014 | Wed 10:20 PM | 0.4 L | 12/28/2014 | Sun 7:18 AM | 0 L |
| 12/7/2014 | Sun 9:19 PM | 4.6 H | 12/18/2014 | Thu 5:13 AM | 4.8 H | 12/28/2014 | Sun 1:47 PM | 4.7 H |
| 12/8/2014 | Mon 2:55 AM | -0.2 L | 12/18/2014 | Thu 11:15 AM | 0.6 L | 12/28/2014 | Sun 7:49 PM | -0.3 L |
| 12/8/2014 | Mon 9:42 AM | 5.3 H | 12/18/2014 | Thu 5:24 PM | 4.3 H | 12/29/2014 | Mon 2:29 AM | 4.8 H |
| 12/8/2014 | Mon 3:38 PM | 0 L | 12/18/2014 | Thu 11:08 PM | 0.1 L | 12/29/2014 | Mon 8:26 AM | 0.1 L |
| 12/8/2014 | Mon 10:01 PM | 4.5 H | 12/19/2014 | Fri 6:02 AM | 5 H | 12/29/2014 | Mon 2:51 PM | 4.5 H |
| 12/9/2014 | Tue 3:37 AM | 0 L | 12/19/2014 | Fri 12:04 PM | 0.3 L | 12/29/2014 | Mon 8:48 PM | -0.3 L |
| 12/9/2014 | Tue 10:21 AM | 5.1 H | 12/19/2014 | Fri 6:15 PM | 4.4 H | 12/30/2014 | Tue 3:35 AM | 4.9 H |
| 12/9/2014 | Tue 4:20 PM | 0.2 L | 12/19/2014 | Fri 11:57 PM | -0.2 L | 12/30/2014 | Tue 9:30 AM | 0.1 L |
| 12/9/2014 | Tue 10:42 PM | 4.4 H | 12/20/2014 | Sat 6:51 AM | 5.1 H | 12/30/2014 | Tue 3:56 PM | 4.4 H |
| 12/10/2014 | Wed 4:19 AM | 0.3 L | 12/20/2014 | Sat 12:51 PM | 0 L | 12/30/2014 | Tue 9:45 PM | -0.3 L |
| 12/10/2014 | Wed 11:00 AM | 5 H | 12/20/2014 | Sat 7:05 PM | 4.4 H | 12/31/2014 | Wed 4:38 AM | 5 H |
| 12/10/2014 | Wed 5:03 PM | 0.4 L | 12/21/2014 | Sun 12:45 AM | -0.5 L | 12/31/2014 | Wed 10:31 AM | 0.1 L |
| 12/10/2014 | Wed 11:22 PM | 4.3 H | 12/21/2014 | Sun 7:39 AM | 5.3 H | 12/31/2014 | Wed 4:58 PM | 4.3 H |
| 12/11/2014 | Thu 5:04 AM | 0.6 L | 12/21/2014 | Sun 1:37 PM | -0.3 L | 12/31/2014 | Wed 10:41 PM | -0.4 L |



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!