



Cape Fear Flyfishers Meeting Minutes—February 18, 2026

<https://capefearff.com>

Dave Risberg called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM at the Homer Wright Event Center. Dave filled in for Al Roy, President, who was not able to attend.

Approximately 25 members attended the meeting.

NEW MEMBERS/VISITORS:

A few visitors/new members attended meeting:

- Landon O'Hara
- Alex Wood
- Curt Kimble

FLY RAFFLE

- Ron Harris won the fly raffle.

FISHING REPORTS

- Dave Risberg spoke of his recent trip to Brazil, where he fished the Amazon river. He related the arduous travel over rough terrain for many hours to get to the site. But the fishing was apparently well worth it. They fished from the "Amazon platform". The main fish were Peacock Bass, red tail catfish, as well as other species.

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer Paul Askew was absent but Doug Donaldson reported that the club's cash balance is approximately \$ 5,200. He reported that the club donated \$100 to The Wounded Warriors. Our club name will be displayed at the upcoming golfing event/fund raiser.

UPCOMING EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- October 12-16, 2026 Spousal Fishing Event. Dave Risberg is the coordinator of this trip, he reviewed the particulars and asked for interested individuals to let him know which guide serve, of the two that he offered, they would prefer. These venues fill up quickly so a response is needed in next two weeks. The details are shown in the attached document Dave sent to all members.

SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

Capt. Allen Cain www.sightfishnc.com/ 336-613-2975

Capt. Allen presented a thorough overview of local fishing and other venues. Allen attended the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. While at UNCW, Allen spent every free minute learning how to combine his passion for fishing and hunting together through shallow water sight fishing.

Although Capt. Allen enjoys all types of fishing, he discovered there is nothing more exciting than stalking a fish in shallow water and watching it eat a fly or lure.

Over the last 20 years he has spent hundreds of days a year learning and exploring the local waters and

the many species of fish that inhabit them. Allen has extensive experience fishing the inshore and offshore waters of NC as well as the Florida Keys, Everglades, and Louisiana. Allen's guiding career has also taken him to many tropical fishing destinations such as Cuba, Mexico, Belize, and the Bahamas.

In 2010, Allen obtained his USCG captains license and decided to pursue a full time fishing career. With over 15 years of guiding experience Capt. Allen will work hard to ensure you have a memorable fishing adventure on the water. He knows what species are active in which location to enable best chances of a good catch. He is extremely experienced and knowledgeable of NC's Cape Fear Coast.

He presented amazing information on the areas that he fishes/guides. Of notable interest was fishing in Louisiana, he said we should all consider a destination trip to that location. Hopedale and Venice were a couple of cities that were most convenient. Fishing is best in the fall.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM. Nine members continued discussions at Paul's Tavern on Oak Island.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Falkenstein

October Trout Fishing

Point of contact is Dave Risberg at dsrisberg@yahoo.com

Below are two options for the October Trip.

- I kept the dates consistent with last year's event.
 - I spoke with both E.J. Stern and Jon Hooper and they are equally enthusiastic and excited that CFF is considering them.
 - Please look over both proposals and let me know any feedback directly at dsrisberg@yahoo.com
 - Below I have highlighted the pluses and minuses of each.
 - after reviewing any feedback/ opinions I'll start the process of signing our club up
 - Some hotel information is listed for YOU to make reservation once we decide which option
- 1. South Holston River Lodge.** <https://southholstonriverlodge.com/>

Highlights:

- The owner Jon, spoke at CFF January 2026.
- Bristol is a larger town
- Limited boating availability, I think we can work with it.
- The drive is 6.5 hour road trip

2. Smith River Outfitters. <https://raleighflyfishing.com/>

Highlights:

- More availability accommodating us with guides
- Only a four hour drive

- Wader fishing available
- Tiger trout may be caught, a hybrid
- Smaller town.

Option 1: South Holston River Lodge

1509 Bullock Hollow Rd Bristol TN 37620

Phone # 423-878-3475

\$450 for 1/2 day (4 hours)

\$575 full day (8 hours)

Included:

all equipment, rods, flies

Lunch, for full day

Not Included:

TN Fishing License. 3 days for \$40. 10 days for \$61.

Fishing days:

October 12, 13, 14 three boats a day accommodating 6 anglers each day

15th has 5 boats available to accommodate 10 anglers

16th 2 boats accommodating 4 anglers

Total 16 boat trips for 32 anglers

Lodging:

1) Betty Cogan <https://www.holstonriverreserve.com/> 423-341-5816

Several country lodges on a working farm

1.2 miles from South Holston River Lodge

2) The Bristol Hotel <https://www.bristolhotelva.com/>

Features upscale rooms and suites, a rooftop bar with sweeping views of the Appalachian Mountains, street-front dining with family-style regional fare, and a historic ballroom for unforgettable social gatherings and special events.

about \$150/night

8.5 miles from South Holston River Lodge

3) Hard Rock Hotel and Casino <https://casino.hardrock.com/bristol>

\$174/ night

Dinning:

Multiple choices of restaurants in Bristol.

*One planned dinner event for members most likely on the Wednesday, Location to be announced.

Option 2: Smith River Outfitters

3425 Fairystone Park Hwy Bassett, VA

\$450 for 1/2 day (4 hours)

\$550 for full day (8 hours)

Included:

all Orvis equipment; rods, reels, flies

Lunch for full day

Not Included:

Virginia fishing license. 5 day freshwater for \$44

Fishing days:

October 12, 13, 14, 15, 16. Five boats a day accommodating up to 10 anglers a day. Total of 15 trips a day for 30 anglers

Lodging:

1) Hampton Inn Martinsville

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/mtvvahx-hampton-martinsville/>

-free breakfast about \$200/ night

Approximately 6 miles from Smith River Outfitters

2) Cabins on Location by Smith River Outfitters

house for up to four people

Cabin for 2 people

3) Oakdale Inn (a Higher end historic hotel)

- <https://www.oakdaleinnmva.com/>

>\$200/ night

-breakfast is offered

- 9 miles from Smith River Lodge

Dinning:

Multiple choices of restaurants in Martinsville.

*One planned dinner event for members most likely on the Wednesday, Location to be announced.

Respectfully,
Dave Risberg

CFF Board for 2026 are:

Al Roy -President/Club Officer

Board Member

OPEN-Vice President/Club Officer

Board Member

Paul Askew-Treasurer/Club Officer

Board Member

OPEN-Secretary/Club Officer

Board Member

Dennis Falkenstein filling in

Jim White

Director-Education

Steve Moore

Director-Webmaster/Conservation

Jim Larson

Board Member

Joe Fetter

Board Member

Dominick Sangillo

Board Member