



Cape Fear Flyfishers Meeting Minutes—April 15, 2026

<https://capefearff.com>

President Al Roy called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Homer Wright Event Center. Approximately 30 members attended the meeting.

NEW MEMBERS/VISITORS:

Several new members attended the meeting.

FLY Raffle:

- Jack Schaffy won the fly raffle

FISHING REPORTS

- Jim White visited the ponds in Brunswick County identified by Mike Raby, pronounced them extremely satisfactory for casting and will provide a complete description and directions to their location at or before the June meeting of CFF.

Fishing in the area is reported as improving with increasing schooling *e.g.* mackerel as weather conditions and water clarity improve.

- The Casting Clinic led by Jim White, held 9am-12 pm on Saturday April 11, 2026 was attended by 10-12 participants with brunch at the Egg Up Grill.

TREASURERS REPORT

- Treasurer Paul Askew reported that the club's cash balance is \$ 5574.82. Of 69 regular members, 37 have fully paid their dues including the recent assessment of \$10.00 from FFI of all chapters. Members are encouraged to pay their dues as soon as possible.

UPCOMING EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Al Roy Reminded the membership that our Spousal trip will be in Virginia, from October 12th to the 16th to fish the Smith River. The Smith River rates as one of Virginia's strongest and most reliable trout fisheries, especially for wild brown trout. The 31-mile special-regulation section (Philpott → Mitchell Bridge) is dominated by naturally reproducing browns, with fish commonly in the 10–24-inch protected slot. Smith River Outfitters. <https://raleighflyfishing.com/>
3425 Fairystone Park Hwy, Bassett, VA
Cost is:
\$450 for 1/2 day (4 hours)
\$550 for a full day (8 hours)
- Connect with Dave Risberg <dsrisberg@yahoo.com> for more information and sign up.

SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

Mr. E.J. Stern, owner of Smith River Outfitters, Raleigh Fly Fishing Guide Services and potential guide for the Spousal trip gave an informative presentation on fishing the Smith, Stanton, Cape Fear, Dan, Eno and Neuse rivers in Virginia, West Virginia (Neuse) and North Carolina. These rivers, particularly the Smith, are populated (80%) with 2500 wild Brown trout/mile over 31 miles of fishable river(s) and size Range of 9-23". The Stanton and Eno rivers also have a considerable bass fishery, with large numbers of White Bass in the Eno and Spotted Bass in the upper waters of the Cape Fear. Weighted line fishing was recommended during March-mid-April. Smith River Outfitters' number 1 target is Spotted Bass in the Cape Fear from April through early fall around Millington, NC, with some landings of Alabama Bass, an invasive species. In addition, Mr. Stern noted that in addition to the resident population of Large Mouth Bass on Neuse River, the extensive, seasonal Shad fishery on the Neuse extended 150 miles from the ocean to WVA.

An active discussion of where to fish on the Smith (down river) and best fly use followed with recommendations for all colors of midges, particularly red stripe, silver beads and streamers.

Adjournment

- The General meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm PM. Many members continued the discussion at Paul's Pub, Oak Island.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Beattie

Addendum

The results of the recent election for Board Members are as follows:

CFF Board for 2026 are:

Al Roy -President/Club Officer	Board Member
Dave Risberg-Vice President/Club Officer	Board Member
Paul Askew-Treasurer/Club Officer	Board Member
Craig Beattie-Secretary/Club Officer	Board Member
Jim White	Director-Education
Steve Moore	Director-Webmaster/Conservation
Jim Larson	Director-Past President
Joe Fetter	Director
Dominick Sangillo	Director-Membership

