



Minutes June 17, 2015
St. James Community Center

The Cape Fear Flyfishers met at the St. James Community Center on Wednesday, June 17, 2015.

Introduction of New Members and Guests

There were no new members or guests present.

Approval of Minutes

The members approved the minutes of the May 20, 2015 meeting

Treasurer's Report

Tony Mangiapane reported we have \$1,970 in the bank; we have an upcoming payment for insurance of \$270.

Fly Drawing

Steve Kennington held the winning ticket for the fly drawing - again.

Fishing Reports

Pine Island: Members had one of their most successful outings in the club's history. Tony Mangiapane and Dan Neuschafer together caught 183, 15-17 inch, smallmouth bass, including 20-25 citations. All anglers combined caught hundreds of fish. Fishing on the river was excellent but fishing Ryerson Lake was spectacular. Several other gamefish such as pike were caught as well.

Lockwood Folly River: David Coats recommended fishing for redfish about a mile up the Lockwood Folly River where you will see the first houses on the left. You will also see green marker #5 and an island beside it. Anchor your boat on the sandbar behind the island. On the outgoing tide, there is an eddy at the end of the island next to an 8 foot ditch between the island and the sandbar. Menhaden pass through the ditch as the tide

falls. Catch redfish off the end of the island on the falling tide; catch flounder in the 15 foot channel on the other side of the sandbar on low tide.

Old Business

[IFFF](#) – Jim Write reported the check is in the mail to IFFF and we are waiting to hear back from them.

Annual Picnic – In Harry Gobble’s absence, Jim White will chair the volunteer planning committee for the annual picnic. It will be held Wednesday, August 19th at Waterway Park in St. James Plantation.

Holiday Party – Harry Gobble reminded members the holiday party will be held Wednesday, December 16th in the pub room of the St. James Plantation Members Club, the same location as last year.

New Business

Morehead City – timing will be November but will be flexible, depending on the weather and fishing reports and when we schedule other club trips.

Montana Trip – Harry will arrange a lunch or dinner for participants to get together and put together a game plan for the Montana trip, July 19-25.

N.C. Mountain Trip – The Club will repeat last year’s popular trip to the NC Mountains near Waynesville, N.C, fishing on the [Tuckaseegee River](#), Davidson River, a fork of the Pigeon River, and the Cherokee Tribal waters. We are targeting the week of October 12th. Spouses are welcome and you can be flexible in planning which days you wish to participate. There will be opportunities for wade and float fishing.

Beyond the Horizon – Bobby Sands announced the final book in his trilogy. It retails for \$19.95 on [Amazon.com](#). Bobby took orders at the meeting for an advance, signed copy for \$10.

Draft Supplement to Protect Flounder Fishery– Steve Moore reported there is a comment period until July 10th on a draft supplement to protect the flounder fishery along the NC coast. The goal is to reduce the harvest by 60%. The supplement offers the possibility of stopping gill netting over the next three years. Of the six proposals presented, it is in recreational fishermen’s interest to support Proposal One. The ban on gill nets will also affect small, part-time, commercial fishermen who do not sell retail but use small gill nets to catch large quantities fish to fill their freezers.

Steve collected signed letters from members endorsing Proposal One which he will mail. He also encouraged members to use other family email addresses to submit “votes” for Proposal One. The email address is flounder.supplement@ncdenr.gov. Example text might read:

“Thank you for allowing me to participate in the public comment on the management of Southern Flounder.

Based on the options given to the public by the NCDMF staff and commissioners, I believe proposal 1 is the best for management of Southern Flounder.”

PROGRAM: FISHING FOR REDS ON THE FLATS

The program included commentary by members Jim White, Bobby Sands, and Charlie White and viewing the video “[Redfish Can’t Jump](#).”

Jim White

Wade in short grass with hard bottoms only; avoid high grass which have soft bottoms. Short grass is where you find the fish and the fiddler crabs they feed on.

Keep an eye out for minnows scattering; tails moving; and wakes of cruising reds.

One can use shrimp and fiddler crab fly imitations, but Jim’s favorite fly is a black and purple toad.

Use an 8 weight rod or a 9 weight in windy conditions.

One does not have to travel far to look for redfish; Al Nobel feels his freezer each year fishing the ICW from Wildlife Creek to St. James Marina.

The marsh is our friend – it is in our local area; the fish are there; it’s not necessary to buy expensive equipment; and our easy access to the marsh will make you want to get out and practice your casting.

Bobby Sands

Bobby prefers fishing rising and spring tides; aim for tides between 4.5 and 5.0 feet.

You don’t need hundreds of flies; choose four or five fly patterns that work for you. (See attached photos of redfish flies.)

Use stealth. Redfish have evolved over centuries to be survivors and will scatter if they suspect anything out of the ordinary; a refractive shadow will spook them.

You must have a weed guard on your hook. Bobby demonstrated how to tie a hook guard on a fly. Also search the Internet for videos [such as this one](#) for instructions on how to add a weed guard to a fly.

Charlie White

Consult a tide chart that gives the tide heights as well as the times. The tide chart link on [our website](#) is an excellent source.



Bobby Demonstrates How to add a Weed Guard

One must fish early or late to fish high tides. The morning tide is usually less than the evening tide.

A 5 to 6 foot tide is too high, but one can fish the rise and fall of the tide.

Reds tend to be in certain spots; not all the time, but their tendency is to revisit favorite areas.

Often they stage in a creek mouth that leads to the flat where they feed.

Look for short grass, which is easier to fish than tall; you will see redfish moving in taller grass and tailing in shorter grass. Fish from pond to pond if you find a series of ponds on the flats.

A little altitude makes a big difference in spotting the tails – even a few inches. Put someone on the bow to search for moving tails. Stop and get out when you spot them.

Stealth is a key to success. If you see them, they see you – unless they are feeding.

Don't wear clothing in bright colors, e.g. red/orange, that don't blend with the sky. A light blue shirt is a good choice. White may not be a good choice as the fish may think you are a white heron looking for a meal.

Don't pole quickly and create a wake.

Use wind to your advantage when poling.

Try fishing when there is little boat traffic.

Try to cast just once, casting as close to the nose of the fish as possible. Avoid false casts. Don't cast past the fish – the line may spook them.

Strip line into a laundry basket.

Aim to cast 40' from the fish. You are less accurate with longer casts.

One doesn't need a heavy fly; the hook will sink the fly.

Be careful your back cast is not too long and does not get caught in tall grass. Keep the back cast high enough to clear the grass.

Use a 4-5', 30lb flourocarbon leader. Dan Neuschafer uses a leader no longer than 5'.

If fish moves, simply cast directly in front of it; it is not necessary to make a roll or false cast.

Respectfully submitted,

Forest Duncan, Secretary

Redfish Flies



