



Club Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2016
St. James Community Center

The Cape Fear Flyfishers met at the St. James Community Center at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 15, 2016. The Executive Board held a business meeting at 5:30 pm, before the regular meeting.

Club Business Meeting

Introduction of New Members and Guests - President Jim White welcomed Jack Collins, Bob and Betty Ryan, and Sig Buster.

Approval of the February Minutes - Members approved the February minutes.

Treasurer's Report - Tony Mangiapane reported we have about \$2,100 in the bank. We paid the prorated premium for IFFF liability insurance through May. Our full \$350 annual premium is due before June.

Fly Drawing – Jim White won the fly drawing.

Activities/Program

[International Fly Fishers Federation](#) form– The Federation has asked the club to modify the Application/Acknowledgement/Release form members signed earlier this year. Jim White will email the revised form to members and asked everyone to mail it back to him as soon as possible. Also complete the additional information requested on the back of the statement. This information will help the club better understand members' needs and how they can increase their participation in the club.

[Boone N.C.](#) Mountain Trip – six members have expressed interest in the trip to date. Time options are the weeks beginning July 18 and July 25. Those responding are split between the two times they can go. Jim will email members to get a final count and will advise accordingly.

Steve Moore gave an excellent presentation on hotel options near Boone, the local waters and stocking schedule. The hotels are very reasonable, making this a very affordable trip. Participants will be primarily fishing the Watauga, South Holston, Meat Camp, Wilson, and Dutch rivers and streams.

[Weldon N.C. Roanoke Rapids](#) Striper Trip - the trip is planned for May 3, two days after the start of the catch and release season on May 1. Participants will drive up Tuesday, fish Wednesday, and return Thursday. The Roanoke Rapids current is too strong for kayaks, requiring the use of boats only. To date, Jim White has offered the use of two of his boats, which should be able to accommodate five fishermen. Email Jim if you are interested in participating – and if you have a boat to offer. The more boats we have, the more members can participate.

Mentoring Program - Jim White announced the Mentoring Program which adopts a team concept. Under this approach, teams of experienced members will coach newer, less experienced members.

Fishing Derby and Picnic – The club will hold its annual picnic on June 20 or 21 at Waterway Park, St. James Plantation. Holding the picnic at Waterway Park will be cheaper and there is no restriction on drinking beer and wine. A local fishing derby will be the morning of the picnic. Derby fishing can be done from a boat or kayak, or from the shore.

Old Business

Trips and Activities

Bald Head Island Excursion – the club will be announcing a fishing excursion to fish behind Bald Head Island soon.

Fishing Local Waters – the club will be announcing a fishing excursion to local waters soon.

Build your Own Fly Rod – contact Jim if you are interested.

Flip Pallott and Lefty Kreh Clinic, Titusville, Florida, February 26-27 – Jim White, Peter Laughlin, and Forest Duncan reported the clinic was fun and informative, offering several opportunities to enjoy the company of these masters.

New Business

Flip Pallott and Lefty Kreh Clinic, Jensen, Florida, October 2016 – the clinic will be held at the [River Palms Cottages and Fish Camp](#), which is located on a river with a pier that offers good snook fishing at night. Let Bob Brien and Jim White know if you are interested in attending.

Lake Waccamaw Trip – a trip to nearby [Lake Waccamaw](#) is being planned for the end of March. Steve Moore, Eddie Van Vliet, and Forest Duncan plan to participate and non-kayakers are welcome if boats become available. Email Steve Moore if you are interested.

PROGRAM: FISHING IN THE MOUNTAINS FOR TROUT

Our own Dan Neuschafer gave a photo slide presentation to demonstrate techniques for reading the water and locating fish. Dan also shared the handout “Reading the Water,” which is posted on the club website. The slides showed anglers fishing on a variety of water body types and Dan pointed out how to fish each. Several of his tips follow.

If a stream has a waterfall with a 1-2 foot drop, trout lay below the fall, with their head facing towards or away from the fall. Imagine a fly floating over the waterfall; if the current maintains its down-current path, the fly will continue with the normal current. On the other hand, if the fly flows over the fall and gets caught in an undertow created by the waterfall, the fish may face away from the waterfall, positioning itself to catch the fly as it is swept back with the undertow.

Waterfalls often create a froth within which insects are trapped. Trout will position under the froth, both to feed on the insects and protect themselves from being spotted by winged predators.

Waterfalls are also a major trout attractor because of the oxygen they create.

Look for the convergence of two currents; trout position themselves where the currents meet to take advantage of food flowing from the two paths.

Target the front and back of boulders; the current creates a cushion in front of the boulder as the force of the water must divert around the boulder. Fish often rest and wait for floating insects in this cushion as well as in the still, slow water pocket behind the boulder.

Bend pools will have deeper water that moves more slowly than in the straightaway sections. Ensure the fly floats without a drag as it must move at the same speed as the current. Anglers often cast directly into the middle of the bend without targeting the head and tail of the bend, both which hold fish as well.

You have a better chance of catching fish in “pocket water” such as that found around boulders in fast-moving current than you do in slower-moving bend pools. In the former, the fish must decide instantly to strike or not as the food rushes by; in the latter, the fish has more time to judge whether or not to strike.

Learn how to fish water by observing how an egret or heron stalks its prey. It does not land directly at the bank but several feet away so as not to spook the fish. It then approaches the bank slowly. Fly fishermen should do the same.

Wait until you reach the destination before assembling your rod and attaching a fly. Survey the fishing site by observing the hatch. Look at cobwebs to see the kind of insects being trapped.

Trout seek cooler water which has more oxygen. Cast to the mouths of feeder creeks as the water leaving the creek creates a pocket and supplies cooler water and oxygen. Also cast to the shady side of streams as the water is cooler.

Look for a demarcation along the bank that indicates deeper water. Trout often lurk in these deeper areas to feed on passing prey.

On small streams, take advantage of the Tenkara rod which has no reel and is simple to cast short distances.

See Dan's "Reading the Water" handout on line for more valuable tips.

Respectfully submitted,

Forest Duncan

Secretary