



*From the
PRESIDENT
FDCC*

The Last Cast

When I am fly fishing it all comes down to the last cast, the one that presents a delicate and colorful artificial fly to a fish that will mistake it for something edible. Like so many things the concept is simple but the execution is tricky.

Before that last cast many things have to have occurred for the fish to take the fly. Preparation is the key and the angler needs the right equipment for the trip. Also to properly present the fly, he or she must first understand where the fish are and what they are eating. The best equipment cannot make up for poor casting so the angler needs to practice proper casting techniques in varying conditions to prepare for wind, current and other challenges.

For me a perfect cast is almost as satisfying as catching a fish. I love the feel as the rod comes forward with the fly line zipping past my ear and shooting out of the rod tip on target to a waiting trout or bone fish. If things go well on the strip then it is fish on!

So what does this have to do with the FDCC?

The registration for Montreux opened May 5th and the hotel is booking up. Our Convention Chair Ned Currie and Program Chair Todd Roberts have assembled everything needed for the perfect cast to you. The brochure describes in detail all of our wonderful activities and an outstanding program. Please take a few minutes to review the brochure and really dig into the details of our Annual Meeting in Montreux.

Our meeting in Europe offers us many unique opportunities. We will experience a different culture and legal system, and have the opportunity to fellowship with many of our European members. Just like fly fishing and the last cast we did a significant amount of preparation before we could go live with registration. Planning an Annual Meeting may seem simple in concept, but actually doing it and doing it well is tricky indeed, particularly in Europe. Ned, Todd and our Apex team has done a great job of preparing us for a successful last cast to you. Already, we have had an excellent response and I encourage you to register now as our offsite activities are filling up fast.

Montreux is going to be an extraordinary FDCC experience! The Convention Team hopes that you will find the brochure appealing to your tastes and you will take the bite. Luckily, you will find the experience is real and not artificial in any respect. Just like the angler's last cast, your trip's success depends on the preparation you are doing now. The preparation is intense but the payoff of the perfect trip is huge. Here are some things you should be doing: register online now, check your passport which must be valid for at least 6 months after your trip, book your airline tickets, book your hotel room, and of course, plan an extended stay in Europe with your FDCC friends.

I must confess that my casting is often less than perfect, but on the occasion when it is, the feeling is very special. I have that same special feeling from talking with Ned and our Convention Team. I know that this meeting in Montreux will be “***Magnifique and Beyond!***”, but for a perfect meeting, you need to be there with us. If you have questions or want more information please contact Ned Currie ecurrie@johnsoncurrie.com or our Meeting Planner Regina Legoo at regina@thefederation.org

Carol Anne and I are looking forward to seeing you in Montreux,

Mills