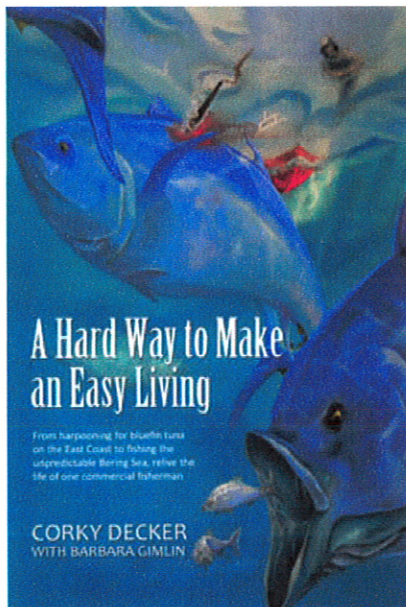


## FISH TALES: Destin resident publishes autobiography and novel inspired by fishing

[Katy Houghton](#)

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Corky Decker has been fishing since the age of six, working for tips on a party boat in Maine. But writing about his beloved pastime has been a growing passion.

“When I got to Alaska, I started writing articles for different magazines. I’ve been published in over 20 magazines around the world,” he said.

Decker has lived in Destin for two years. He moved to the Emerald Coast after selling his sport fishing business in the South Pacific.

“I thought it was time to come back to the states... Destin seemed like the best place for fishing anywhere in the lower 48 and has a reputation for good marlin fishing,” he said.

Decker grew up on the East Coast where he studied recreation management and played hockey. However, he decided to quit college and move to Alaska where he made “lots of money” in the commercial fishing business.

After getting divorced and facing financial ruin, he decided to “run away from reality” and head south to Hawaii and later the South Pacific.

“That’s what my autobiography, ‘A Hard Way to Make an Easy Living,’ is about — the boom and busts of the fishing industry,” he said. “It’s targeted at anyone interested in boats and fishing.”

After finishing his first book, Decker started working on a fictional novel, “To See A Green Flash,” inspired by childhood memories.

Similar to Destin’s response during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill last, the characters in Decker’s novel come together as a community during a trying time. The book combines romance and war with a fishing story set in a small New England town during the 1960s.

“It’s based on two young men. One who is drafted to serve in the war and another who escapes the draft by getting a college scholarship,” Decker told The Log. “After a tour of duty, both of the men have greatly changed.”

In between fishing on the Emerald Coast and contract work overseas, Decker is working on sequels to both books. “An Even Harder Way to Make an Easy Living,” is due out sometime in the next year and will tell the story of Decker’s four years in the South Pacific.

“A Hard Way to Make an Easy Living” and “To See A Green Flash” are available online at [www.corkydecker.com](http://www.corkydecker.com) and are sold at most major book sellers.