



**January 2022**

**President's Corner:**

As we begin the New Year I look back on 2021 with mixed feelings. It was a rough year for everyone with conflicting news reports, COVID scares, isolation, masks, etc... However, during that same time, FFFA had a lot of positive accomplishments even though we only met for half the year. We had a great raffle for a premium flyrod and reel plus fly line and backing. The \$500.00 plus value went to one of our loyal members, Justice Rivera, at the September meeting for the price of a \$5.00 ticket! We also had a very successful fishing trip to Kiwanis Island in October, a great and entertaining auction in November thanks to Scott Curtis, and an outstanding Holiday Party in December. If you missed any of those events, you missed a great time with great friends.

Despite the pitfalls that we and everyone else endured last year, the outlook for 2022 is still very positive. Your Board of Trustees met earlier this month to establish an excellent plan for the year to include a variety of activities/trips/meetings that is sure to interest everyone. We will proceed cautiously and try to assure the safety of everyone involved but we still need your

## *FLORIDA FLYFISHING ASSOCIATION*

support and participation. It is disappointing to plan events or trips and invite speakers to volunteer their time for our benefit only to have a low turnout from the membership. So if you haven't been to a meeting or event lately, consider coming back, if you are a regular, thank you and please continue your participation.

This year's plans thus far include:

Fishing trips to Wabasso and surrounding area for Snook and Tarpon

Fishing trip to Miami area for Peacock Bass

Club Picnic (family event) location to be determined

So make sure to stay tuned for updates!

*Don Killingsworth*

**January Club Meeting:**

The January club meeting will be held on **Tuesday January 25<sup>th</sup> at Kay's BBQ**. As usual dinner is at 6:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:00 PM. Come early and enjoy each other's company and dinner before the meeting starts. Our speaker this month is Captain Noah Miller of Florida Fly Company Charters. Captain Miller was originally scheduled to speak at our October meeting but had to cancel due to a family emergency. We appreciate him being able to reschedule this month.

Captain Miller is a Space Coast native and has been fishing the IRL for as long as he can remember. He says that all his life he has been drawn to the water and one of his earliest memories is fishing with his dad. He says “fly fishing is a weird obsession of trying to trick fish with a pea sized brain to eat chicken feathers on a hook”. Captain Miller will talk about this year’s tarpon season. Fly fishing for tarpon is his personal obsession. Come and hear what is sure to be an interesting presentation.



*Captain Noah Miller*

**Indian River Lagoon Update:  
(Water/Sewer Rate Increase Proposals)**

The Brevard County Utility Services has introduced a proposed rate increase. The rates apply only to the county service areas which include the unincorporated areas and not service areas of Cocoa, Melbourne, Palm Bay, and Titusville.

Using the current monthly county water/sewer rate (\$44.28 for 2000 gallons usage) the county new bill would be:

2022.....	\$47.28
2023.....	\$51.16
2024.....	\$54.49
2025.....	\$57.62

Over a 10 year period the increase will provide \$460 million of funds to be used for:

- Investment to comply with Florida environmental statutes.
- Replacement of old outdated wastewater plants, sewer and pump stations
- Increased capacity for future development in Barefoot Bay, Mims, and Port St. John.
- Funds for septic to sewer construction costs
- Increase funding for operations and maintenance to continue reliability throughout the system.

The Lagoon sales tax plan is providing about \$480 million for projects to reduce nutrient pollutants in the Lagoon over the 10 year period. The total estimated cost to completely restore the Lagoon is about \$2.5 billion. Just the cost to replace the 57,000 septic tanks to a sewer system or to a modern septic system that are in the Lagoon watershed is over \$1 billion. The funding from the proposed rate increase will also make the county eligible for matching grants to reduce pollutants in the Lagoon.

The public hearing for the County Commission to consider this proposal will be on February 8<sup>th</sup>. If commissioners approve the plan, the increases would take effect in early 2022.

The FFFA Board of Directors unanimously agreed to support this proposal at their last meeting. I encourage all FFFA members to support this legislation since it will definitely provide additional funding of projects to help restore the water quality in the Lagoon.

*Jim Glass*

## Fly Fishing With Scott in Sebastian



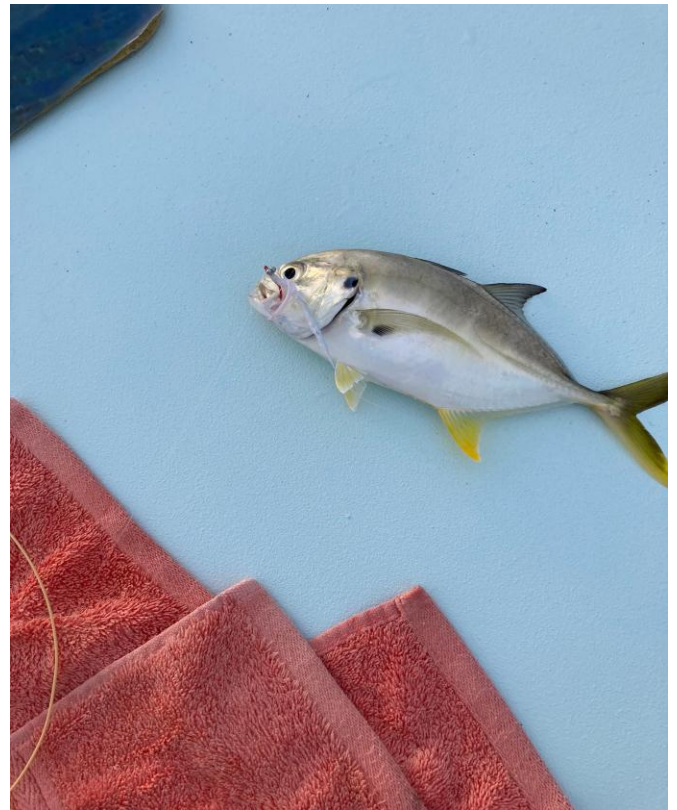
Winter has set in and the fly-fishing in Sebastian has slowed down. Most morning the temperature is in the low fifties with the wind blowing 10 mph plus. There have been a few days where the wind calms down to less than 3 mph; temperatures rise to high 60's to 70 degrees, which allows for a great day on the water.

During these far and few days the fly-fishing has been slow but peaceful on the

water. The water temp has hovered around 68\* causing slow hook-ups. Most of the fish have been small (under 14 inches). Jacks have seen more of my net than Snook, but the Ladyfish are in abundance if you dare to bring them into the boat.

I expect a banner New Year on the water with a lot more hook-up and time doing it. Once the wind changes from blowing out of the North and starts coming from the south at a more manageable level, I should be hitting it a lot.

I post weekly on the club's group Face Book page @ Florida Fly Fishing Association (group). Join and take part in the fly-fishing conversation. Looking forward to the next meeting.



## FFFA January Club Auction



## Club Coffee Cups

All members who attended the clubs annual Christmas Party, in good standing, received a club logo coffee cup with their name on it. Steve Moon and Scott provided the coffee cups to each member as a special thanks for all they have done to make this club a tremendous success.



Anyone who did not receive their coffee cup at the Christmas Part can pick it up at the next club meeting. (See Scott)