



February 2022

President's Corner:

Thanks to everyone who attended the January meeting, we had a great time and a great speaker in Captain Noah Miller. He is obviously very passionate about fly-fishing and gave us a lot of great tips about fishing for juvenile tarpon on a fly.

We also had four new members join our club willing to bring a lot of fishing knowledge, youth and enthusiasm. We look forward to having them as part of our club.

Al Keller

Nick Bonura

Mike Gregor

Patrick Murphy

Make sure to introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome.

Our club is slowly growing back towards pre-pandemic status with 31 individual paid memberships and 5 paid family memberships for a total of 41 members. However, there are several people who were loyal members prior to the pandemic that have not returned yet. You know who you are and we would love to see your faces in the audience again. We have missed your talents, skills and contributions to our club. Hope to see you soon, tight lines.

FLORIDA FLYFISHING ASSOCIATION

Like many of you I'm sure, I have watched the Winter Olympics this week. As I watch these young athletes I am amazed at their talent and skills. These skills just didn't happen overnight, they are a result of many hours, years, and in some cases even decades of practice. Although that seems like a big sacrifice, for many it's a labor of love for a sport they're so passionate about.

Flyfishers can learn a lot from these young people. We all profess to love the sport of fly-fishing but have we invested the time, effort and practice it requires. As Flip Pallot says "It's all about the last 40 feet". You can go to your local pro shop and buy the best and most expensive rods, reels, line and flies. You can purchase the latest fly fishing fashion and you can ride or pole an expensive skiff to within forty feet of a tailing redfish, bonefish, etc... All those things you've invested your money in won't get you the last forty feet because you've neglected to bring the skills necessary to get you the last forty feet to that beautiful fish. Isn't it time we started investing in those skills rather than just sitting in meetings and listening to those who have. In the near future we will all have an opportunity to take the first step in honing those casting skills and hopefully like the Olympic athletes invest the time and effort in the future to become more proficient in the sport we are so passionate about.

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, March 26th**. The club will be hosting a family picnic and casting clinic at F. Burton Smith Park on Hwy 520.. The picnic will give us all a chance to socialize and get to know each other a little better. The clinic will allow us to get instructions and tips from some of the best casters in our club, Bob Clouser and Joe Sherer.. Along with the casting clinic there will be some contests to test your newly acquired skills. There will also be some very nice door prizes and awards for the best casting skills. Details will be shared at the next couple of meetings as well as the next newsletter. Take the first step and start investing in the skills you need to get the last forty feet. Don't miss this!

Don Killingsworth

February Club Meeting:

The February club meeting will be held on **Tuesday February 22nd at Kay's BBQ**. As usual dinner is at 6:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:00 PM. Come early and enjoy good friends and good food before the meeting starts. Our speaker this month is Captain Alan Ryland, Captain Ryland is originally from Ft Lauderdale and he has lived his entire life in the State of Florida. His passion second only to his family is the sport of inshore angling, especially on fly gear. Fishing for him started at an early age in the canals and retention ponds of South Florida. Eventually this grew to include the back county waters surrounding the Florida Keys because most of his family resided and boated/fished that area. Throughout his youth he was fortunate to have a family whose whole life revolved around water and fishing.

Captain Ryland's immediate family eventually moved to the East Central Florida

area. His fishing then evolved to riding his bike to local lakes and the shorelines of the Indian and Banana Rivers. At the age of 16 with a driver's license in hand and a vehicle, he was able to use his father's boat and expand his fishing throughout East Central Florida lakes and Lagoon estuaries. His passion for fishing, especially fly-fishing continued to grow to include fishing local bass tournaments and later to inshore Redfish tournaments. Eventually he was fishing around the entire State of Florida and even to the marshes of Louisiana.

After fishing the inshore tournament scene for five or so years, Captain Ryland's focus turned to sharing his passion of fishing with others. His clear direction at that point was to obtain his USCG Captain's license and continue to devote what time he could to sharing his love and knowledge of inshore and fly-fishing with others. So began this new chapter in his life.

Captain Ryland currently fishes a 2018 Maverick 18HPXV powered by a 2018 Yamaha 115 VMAX.

His tackle is: Nautilus Fly Reels, Florida Fishing Products spinning reels, St Croix and G Loomis Rods.



Captain Alan Ryland

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

The Brevard County Commission met on Tuesday, February 8th to consider and vote on the proposed rate increases by the Brevard Utilities Board.

A couple of our members, Jim Glass and Ron Reid spoke very eloquently in favor of the increase so we can provide the necessary funds to continue funding the IRL restoration.

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.

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 public hearing drew a large crowd, many in favor of the rate increase but also a large number of citizens that were against it. After debating both for and against the proposal, the Commission voted 4-1 in favor of the increase. The only dissenting vote was by Commissioner Tobia representing District 3.

Flytying Starts Again in March!

After a long absence, our monthly fly tying sessions will start again on **Tuesday March 15th at 6:00 PM at Kay's BBQ**. Come at 6:00 PM for dinner and the tying session will start immediately afterwards. We will schedule these sessions on the third Tuesday of every

month so go ahead and mark your calendars now.

The first session will be led by Bob Clouser and Jackie Prock. They will teach us to tie the **Clouser Darter**. They will supply all the materials needed. All you need to bring is your fly tying tools, thread and something to coat the head of the fly.

Jackie says this is a very simple pattern using Kip tail and flashabou. She also says she just caught her personal best speckled sea trout on this pattern. If you attend, she might even tell you where she caught it.



Clouser Dart

Flyfishing with Scott in Sebastian



I have not been out very much in the last few weeks. Weather has played a big part of not

getting out of bed early in the morning. When temperatures hover between 40-50*, it makes it extremely hard to get motivated and go fishing. On the occasion that I did get out the bite was slow. Water temp never warmed up passed 65*. The ones we did manage to catch were small and strikes were less frequent than expected. The mornings made for good conservation and a lot of practicing.



I have seen Steve Lo's posts on the club's Face-Book page where he is catching a few. He even used one of Joe's old flies from the drawing bucket to haul in a nice Sea Trout. This surprised me because I have always suggested that those flies in the bucket were Joe's left over's that would never work. Well, I have to apologize to Joe and try a few myself. Check out Steve's post on Face-Book and join us at the next meeting. Purchase a few drawing tickets (6 for \$5.00) to help out the club and receive a Joe guaranteed, Steve verified; fly, to catch more fish.

Club Coffee Cups



All members in good standing at the time of the club's annual Christmas Party, received a club logo coffee cup with their name on it. Steve Moon and Scott provided the coffee cups to each member as 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 Party can pick it up at the next club meeting. (See Scott)

FFFA February 2022 Club Auction

