

Tight Loops



Issue: 2026-1 Date: January, 2026

Florida Fly Fishing Association

Bass Pro Expo January 3rd

1/3/26 The fun event will be held at the Bass Pro in Orlando from 10am to 4pm. See our flyer, provided in this newsletter, below.

Orlando Home & Garden Show: January 9, 10 & 11th

The fun event will be held at the Orlando Convention Center. See our flyer which is provided, below.

Fly Tying January 20th

1/20/26 Tie a fly to catch Shad, Tyler Rainy G. Starts at 6:30pm

FFFA Club Meeting January 27th

1/27/26 PROGRAM: Steve Lo will be teaching us about how to catch Shad. Starts at 6:30pm.

Fly Tying February 17th

2/17/26 Bill L will teach us about how to tie a Peacock Bass fly.

FFFA Club Meeting February 24th

2/24/26 PROGRAM: Auction will be held at Perkins Restaurant on Wickham Rd. & begins at 6:30pm.

Our January 20th Fly Tying class will be held at the Cocoa Library aka Catherine Schweinsberg Rood



Fly to catch Shad

Please join us for a fly tying class on January 20th. Tyler Rainy G. will teach us to tie a fly to catch Shad; and a variety of other freshwater fish, We will be meeting at the **Cocoa Library** aka: Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library 308 Forrest Avenue Cocoa FL 32922.

Dinner isn't available. Fly tying starts at 6:30pm, but please arrive 15 minutes early. If you have UV glue, please bring it. Fly tying materials will be provided, but please bring your own vise and tools if you have them. If not, we can provide one for you

Our January 27th FFFA Club Meeting will be held at Perkins Restaurant 8200 N Wickham Rd

1/27/26 PROGRAM: Long-standing FFFA member Steve Lo will be teaching us about how to catch Shad; which are very active during January & early February. Our FFFA Club meeting will be held at Perkins Restaurant & Bakery located at 8200 N. Wickham RD. (1 block from Hwy 95) Melbourne, FL 32940. The meeting begins at 6:30pm. Please arrive by 6pm for a great dinner (at your own expense).



Annual Auction on February 24th at Perkins Restaurant

We are now preparing for our **Annual Equipment Auction** which will take place on February 24th at Perkins Restaurant & Bakery 8200 N. Wickham RD, Melbourne, FL 32940

Clyde L. is overseeing this fun event and needs your donations to make this auction a great success. Donations are requested of any items associated with fly fishing from fly fishing rods, reels, art, fly tying equipment, materials to clothing items, tackle bags, boat equipment, etc.

It's Spring-cleaning time so organize your equipment and contact Clyde to coordinate and dropoff those items you no longer need. Proceeds from the auction fund our club's operations including our annual holiday dinner and picnic and allow us to maintain our low membership dues. Don't forget to attend this very fun event! And, bring your checkbook / cash!!!

We delayed the auction to get acclimated to our new location (Perkins Restaurant). This will help ensure it runs smoothly. And, January is timelier for learning about how to catch Shad.



Calendar of Events

January 2026

- January 3rd** Bass Pro Expo - Orlando
- January 9th to 11th** Home & Garden Show - Orlando
- January 20th** Fly Tying: Rainy G. (fly to catch Shad)
- January 27th** Club Meeting: Steve Lo teaches how to catch Shad
- January 28th** Shad Run Outing (weather permitting)

February 2026

- February 17th** Fly Tying: Bill L. teaches the Clouser for Peacock Bass
- February 24th** Club Meeting: Annual Auction
- February (TBA)** Shad Run Outing (if the January outing is postponed)

March 2026

- March 17th** Fly Tying (TBD)
- March 24th** Club Meeting (TBD)
- March** or early April (TBA) **Everglades / Holiday Park Outing**

April 2026

- April 21st** Fly Tying (TBD)
- April 28th** Club Meeting (TBD)

Email Point of Contact (POC) @ FFFAevents@gmail.com

Board Members & Officers



President
Amir Pishdad, Jr.



Vice President
Clyde Langley



Treasurer
Daryl Gorenflo



Secretary
Don Foor



Activities Director
Rainy Giard



Compliance Director
Jim Potamos



Conservation Director
Bill Ledward



Education Director
Mike Franz



Program Director
Rick Posey



THE
FLORIDA FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION, INC.



PRESENTS

THE BASS PRO SHOPS - ORLANDO - FLY FISHING EXPO



Join Us for an Unforgettable Event!

Date: Saturday January 3, 2026

Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: The Bass Pro Shops Orlando

5156 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

Event Highlights

- FLY TYING DEMONSTRATIONS
- FLY ROD CASTING INSTRUCTION
- ENTER RAFFLE TO WIN FISHING GEAR
 - Complete Fly Rod Kit with Tools, Flies, and other Fly Fishing Gear
 - Bass Pro Orlando Fishing Gear, Shirts, Hats and Other Fly Fishing Essentials
 - Special Flies Hand-Tied by John "BIG FLY" Grasta
- SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ENTER TO WIN SPECIAL FISHING ADVENTURES
 - Byron Hennessy – "**Osceola Outback Adventures**" (Barramundi Fishing)
 - Hunter Vogel – "**Jurassic Living Jewels**" in Punta Gorda FL (Arapaima & Golden Dorado)
 - John "BIG FLY" Grasta – Private Fly Fishing Lessons & Two-Handed Casting
- Bring your friends and family for a day full of excitement and memories. Admission is free and everyone is welcome!

*Don't Miss Out! THIS IS A GREAT EVENT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
FLORIDA FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION'S OPPORTUNITIES, OUTINGS AND EVENTS*

For more information, contact us at: FFFAevents@gmail.com



17th Annual
HOME & GARDEN SHOW
ORLANDO

One place. One weekend.
All your projects **solved.**



JAN. 9-11

Orange County Convention Center
North Concourse



FREE ADMISSION COURTESY OF Spa Manufacturers



Lonnie Devore



Meet Central Florida Native and US Army Veteran Lonnie Devore. Lonnie has over 50 years experience of being a fishman.

He is a member of the Florida Fly Fishing Association and member of Project Healing Waters, a military veteran sponsored program serving veterans by teaching Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, Rod Building and the art of fly fishing and casting.

Check out Lonnie's seminars on Tarpon on Saturday and Sunday



Amir Pishdad



Meet current President of the Florida Fly Fishing Association Amir Pishdad. Amir is a native of Virginia and a military Veteran.

He is a member of Project Healing Waters, a military veteran program serving veterans by teaching Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, Rod Building and the art of fly fishing and casting. Lonnie has been a fisherman his entire life!

Learn all about fly fishing in the Everglades in Amir's seminars on Saturday and Sunday.



Mike Franz



Meet Expert Contract Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Outfitter Mike Franz.

Mike has 25 years experience as a Fly Fishers International Casting Instructor and he loves to share the sport with others!

Join Mike's seminar on Saturday to see how easy it is to learn fly casting and maybe even cast a few of your own!

FLY FISHING STAGE

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 10

- 11:00am Fly Fishing in the Florida Everglades
- 12:00pm Heavy Hitters
- 1:00pm Intro to Fly Casting
- 2:00pm Fly Fishing in the Florida Everglades
- 3:00pm Intro to Fly Casting
- 4:00pm Heavy Hitters

Sunday, January 11

- 12:00pm Fly Fishing in the Florida Everglades
- 1:00pm Heavy Hitters
- 2:00pm Fly Fishing in the Florida Everglades
- 3:00pm Heavy Hitters

Classes



Cooking Classes

Seniors (ages 50+) can sign up for a pasta making class on Friday. A variety of kids classes (for ages 5-12) are available Saturday & Sunday. Classes hosted by Chef It Up.



Herb Garden Classes

Build your own Starter Herb Garden at the show on Saturday or Sunday. Ages 16+. Classes hosted by Fairy Tale Gardens.



Cupcake Decorating

Learn new cake decorating techniques at the show. Tru-Cakes will show you how to make flowers, 2D & 3D images on Saturday and Sunday. Ages 16+.

SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

Fly Fishing the Everglades: Learn the Basics

Amir Pishdad, Florida Fly Fishing Association

Ready to cast your first fly? Join Amir Pishdad of the Florida Fly Fishing Association for an introduction to fly fishing in one of the most iconic natural areas in the world—the Florida Everglades. Learn essential techniques, gear basics, and tips for navigating the unique waters and species found in this stunning ecosystem. Perfect for beginners and anyone curious about the art of fly fishing!

Heavy Hitters: Let's Talk about Tarpon

Lonnie Devore, Florida Fly Fishing Association

Dive into the thrilling world of Florida fly fishing with Lonnie Devore of the Florida Fly Fishing Association. This session will focus on targeting Tarpon, one of the most iconic and challenging fish to catch on the fly, along with other exciting species found in Florida's waters. Learn where to find them, how to choose the right flies, and techniques to improve your cast and hookup rate. Whether you're an aspiring angler or a seasoned pro, this is your chance to gain insider tips and stories from the water.

Intro to Fly Casting: Join Us to See How Easy It Is to Learn

Mike Franz, Florida Fly Fishing Association

Ever wanted to try fly fishing but weren't sure where to start? Join Mike Franz of the Florida Fly Fishing Association for a fun, beginner-friendly session on the basics of fly casting. You'll see just how easy and enjoyable it can be to get started—with simple techniques, practical tips, and maybe even a few casts of your own! Perfect for all ages and skill levels.

FFFA OUTING ON JANUARY 28TH

MULLET LAKE PARK FLY FISHING OUTING



Join us for this very fun Fly Fishing Outing. This is a great opportunity to target and catch Shad, Crappie, Bluegill, Blue Tilapia and other freshwater fish.

WHEN

7:15am on Wednesday, January 28th
(or February 6th if we cancel due to high wind or storms)

WHERE

Mullet Lake Park - boat ramp
2368 Mullet Lake Park Road
Geneva, FL 32732

WHO IS INVITED?

All FFFA Club members are invited to participate. Seating is limited, so RSVP as soon as possible!

If you have a boat and wish to participate, Captains should contact Rainy Giard to let him know whether or not you have room for Club member(s) who don't have a boat.

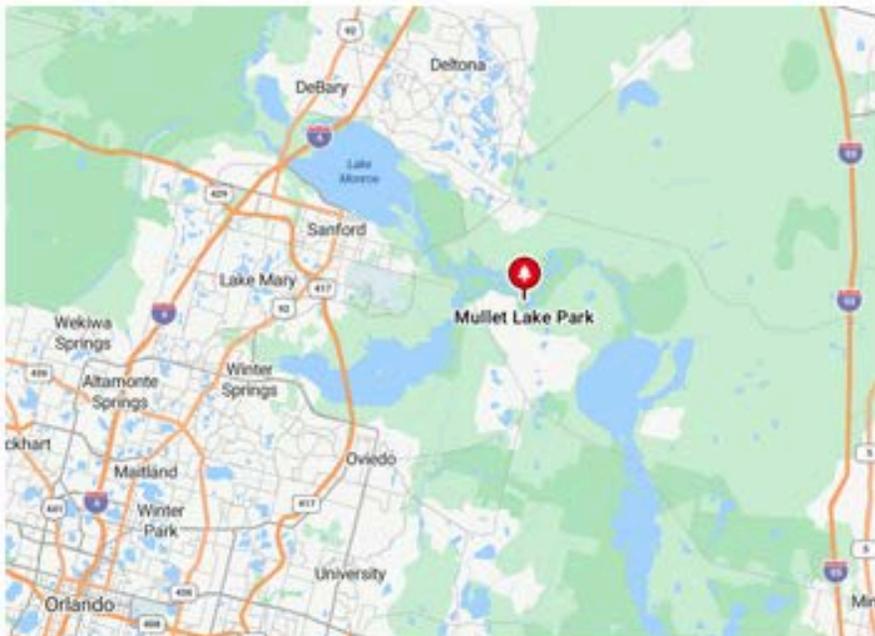
1. Sunscreen
2. Sunglasses
3. **Water** - lots!!!
4. Snacks
5. Hat
6. Jacket
7. Suntan lotion
8. Bug repellent for No See Ums & Mosquitos

WHAT TO BRING

1. Fly Rod (4 wt, 5wt or 6wt)
2. Reel
3. Fishing needle nose pliers
4. Small scissors or nips
5. Washcloth: for fish slime, lol

Recommended Flies

1. Small Closures
2. Poppers Bugs
3. Poppers
4. Tiny Chartreus Popping Bugs
5. Schminnows
6. Gurglers



MEET AT BOAT RAMP AFTERWARDS

At about noon, we'll meet at the boat ramp & then go to a nearby restaurant.

Captains with boats are needed!

Sign up by sending an email to:

FFFAevents@gmail.com attn: Rainy & Rick

FLORIDA FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION INC.



2026 New Club Meeting Location

Perkins Restaurant & Bakery

8200 N Wickham Road Melbourne, FL 32940

321-752-5200

3rd TUESDAY

5pm - 6pm Board Meeting

630pm - 8pm Fly-tying

4th TUESDAY

630pm - 8 pm Club Meeting

January 20th, 2026 3rd Tuesday Fly-tying

@ Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library

308 Forrest Avenue Cocoa FL 32922

January 27th 2026 - First Club Function at

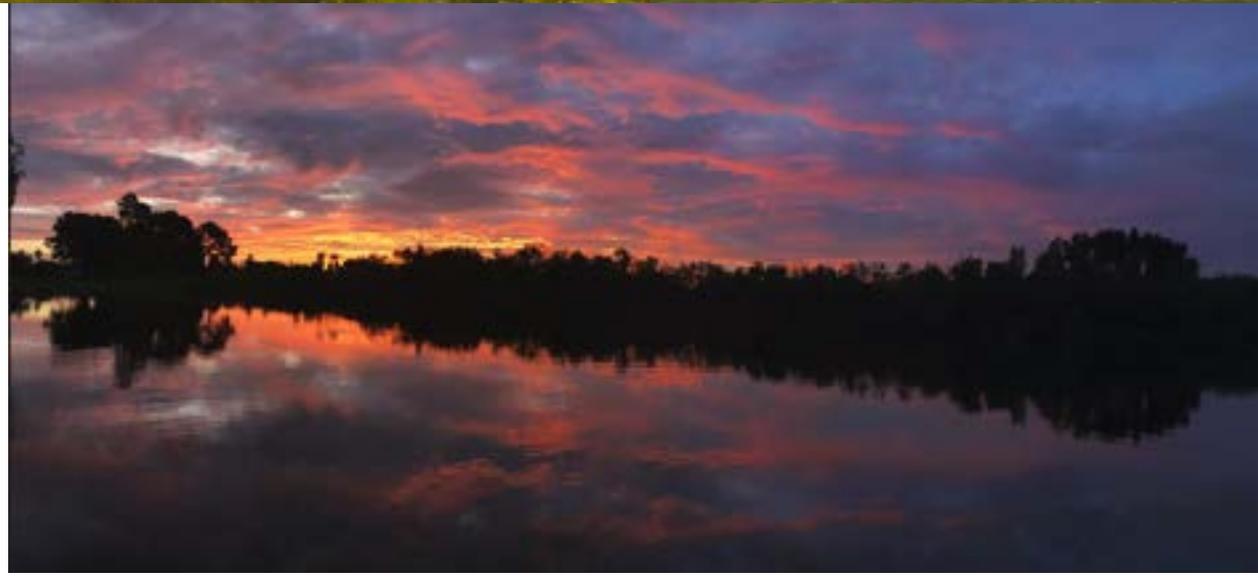
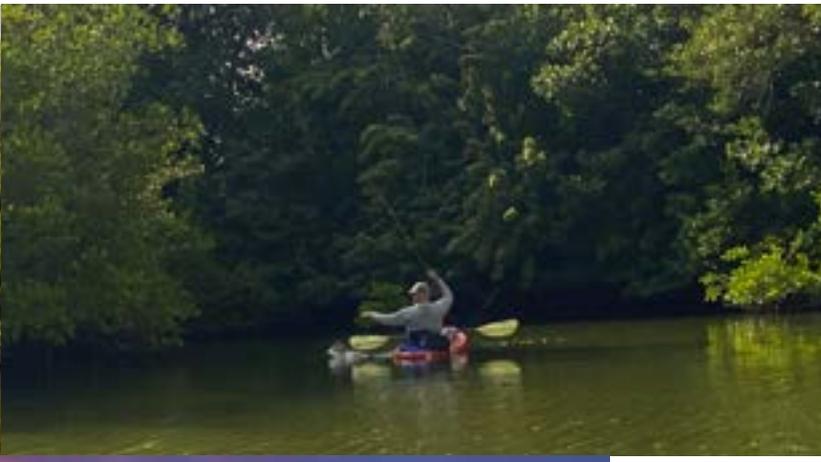
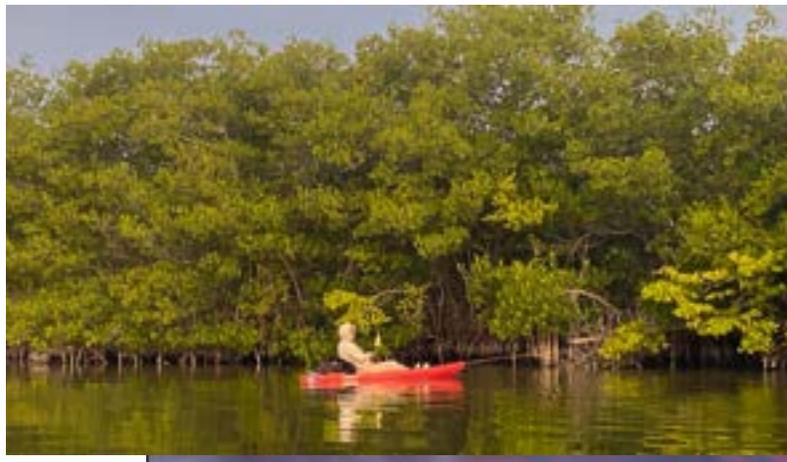
PERKINS

Recommend Members attend Early

Enjoy the Fantastic Food & Deserts at PERKINS



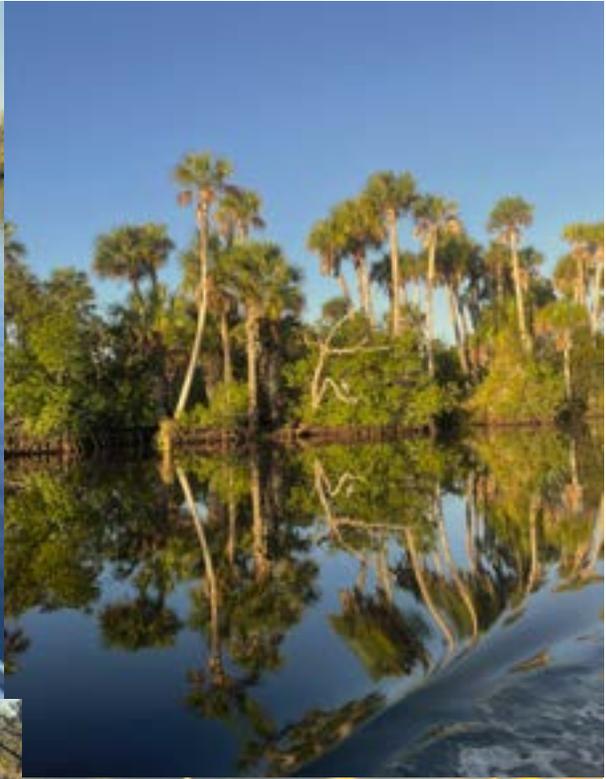
FFFA CHRISTMAS PARTY



FFFA MEMBERS - MISC PICTURES SHARED



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Club Sponsors & Discounts

Clouser's Fly Shop

Home of the Clouser Deep Minnow & World-Renowned flies for all species

Club Members Save 20%
Coupon Code FFFA
at Checkout

4173 Balsa Place
Cocoa, FL 32926
321-890-4876



Bob Clouser Sr. & Jackie Prock
Owners & Business Partners in Fly Fishing & Fly Design
sales@clousersflyshop.com

10 % Discount w/FFFA Membership Card



Harry Goode's Outfitters

1231 E New Haven Ave
Melbourne, FL 32901

Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday - 10am-4pm

harrygoodesoutfitters@gmail.com 321-723-4751

Monthly FlyTying
2nd & 4th Thursday
Starting 6pm
Bring Vice & Tying Tools

FLY TYING - HARRY GOODE'S
2ND + 4TH TUESDAY EACH MONTH
STARTS AT 6PM

Contact Amir for more information at
FFFAevents@Gmail.com

FFFA Pop Up Fishing Trips

Date and time selected based on

- 1) Weather
- 2) What species are active and available
- 3) Trips may be planned with only 1 day notice

Trip participants' selection

- 1) Must be a current member of FFFA (with dues paid)
- 2) Must have filled out sign up sheet for Pop up fishing trips
- 3) You must respond to trip notification within 1 hour of first notification. If you don't respond the spot on the trip will be offered to the next person on the list (notifications will be by TEXT Msg)
- 4) When a Boat Captain and fisherman have been paired up it is their responsibility to communicate and set up a time and place to meet, and launch.
- 5) The number of spots open for the trip will be based on the number of boats available. (If you want to participate by kayak let us know by indicating in the BOAT line on the sign up sheet that you are open to fish by kayak if there are no openings on a boat.

The purpose of the POP UP fishing trip

- 1) promote club participation
- 2) Education & Learning by pairing more experienced Fly Fishers with less experienced.
- 3) To solve the problem of our monthly fishing trips usually having bad weather and to get more trips in when the fish are biting and the weather is good
- 4) More Fishing FUN

----- POP UP CLUB FISHING TRIPS SIGN UP SHEET -----

NAME _____

PHONE # _____

EMAIL _____

BOAT _____

What size? How many anglers can you comfortably fish?

Fishing days Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Freshwater skill level _____

Saltwater skill level _____

Do you have any areas or type of fishing that you would prefer not to participate in? _____

[Email Rainy for more information @ FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)