

Tight Loops



Issue Date: August, 2026

Florida Fly Fishing Association

Fly Tying on August 18th

Steve Lo will be our fly tying instructor - at the Cocoa Library. New: 6pm start time.

Aug. 25th FFFA Club Meeting

Richard Hart will be speaking about fly fishing in the Amazon.

August 27th Outing

Our next fly fishing outing will be held at Ballard Park, see below for more information.

Fly Tying on Sept. 15th

Kevin Sedlak will be our fly tying instructor - Cocoa Library.

Sept. 22nd FFFA Club Meeting

Dr. Aaron Adams with the **Bonefish Tarpon Trust** will be our guest speaker

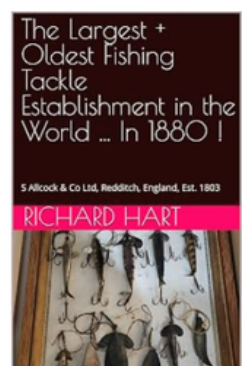
Richard Hart will be our speaker for Aug 25th Club Meeting

Please join us at **Beef O'Bradys 3030 Lake Washington Rd. Melbourne** on August 25th at **6:30pm**. Note the new location!. Richard Hart will be speaking about Fly Fishing in the Amazon. He has chased all manner of species on the fly; in the major jungles all over the world. Manaus in Brazil is the *gateway to the Amazon* and a few other Amazon basin "Guyana's"; which are a short flight from Miami. It's been a regular "Fly Hunting" ground for him. Richard has over 130 IGFA world records.

Richard has spent most of hunting / stalking fish using a fly rod. This venture has taken him to the most remote jungles in Africa, India, Asia; and notably Amazon Rainforest; which covers about 2.3 million square miles. It is the largest rainforest on Earth & spans nine South American countries and represents over half of the planet's remaining tropical forests. Richard has fished them all; as well as the Brazilian Rainforest in the Amazon.

Although it's not his primary target, there are always one of 15 Peacock bass: "Chicla" species available to catch on the fly. The largest is the "Temensis" species, which is one of the strongest freshwater fish on earth. Richard recently published a book: **"The Largest + Oldest Fishing Tackle Establishment in the World ... in 1880!"** Click here: [Richards Book](#)

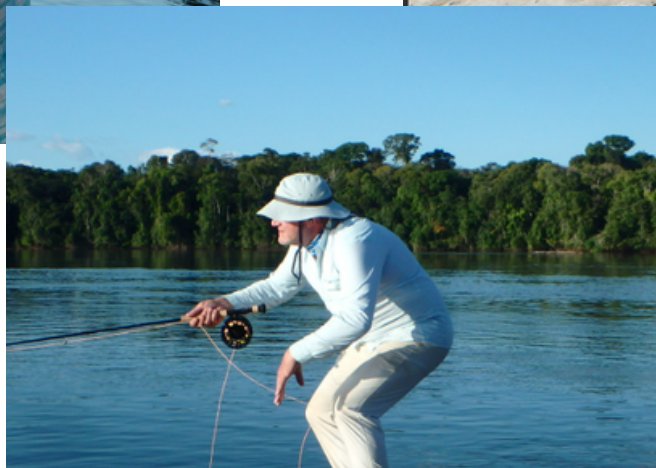
Richard has published several books, but this one was mostly from memory; a pursuit that began at the early age of 7, with a heart and head for fishing, as well as the acumen to make it a business interest.



Richard Hart will be our speaker the Aug. 25th Club Meeting

Richard has travelled the world as an art and antique dealer, appraiser, and auctioneer. As an auctioneer he has conducted over 5,000 live auctions worldwide in all manner of subject matters. He has helped raise over \$12 million for various children's and conservation charities; which are close to his heart. As such the art company where he is now Senior Appraiser, and manager has it embedded into their companies' key Principal.

Above those passions, his real life's aim has been to fish predator fish on the fly, in some of the most remote and unexplored jungles in the world. And along the way, he has accumulated several IGFA world records.



Richard caught a huge arapaima using a fly rod in Guyana on Feb. 4, 2015. It is the heaviest freshwater fish (415.48 lb) ever caught on a fly.



Jim McKinney will serve as Activities Director & Amy Lombardo will serve as Assistant Activities Director

Jim McKinney was born in south Florida 1949. He grew up fishing most every weekend in Biscayne Bay and trips to the Florida keys. His mother and father were both avid fisherman with his mother often “out fishing” his dad and Jim. They caught a lot of Mutton, Yellowtail and Mangrove snapper, grouper and other reef fish. Trips off shore for Mahi, Mackrel and Kingfish provided great days on the water. Jim caught his first Sailfish at 12 and has been always looking for the next species.

Jim got his first fly rod in 1970 when a renter left it after moving out. It was a fiberglass Shakespear two piece with a very basic reel. Having no mentor to teach him, Jim just went to the back yard and started trying to figure it out. Since there was no Youtube, he just kept slinging until he could cast 20 yards or so. In 1981 he moved with a military assignment to Portland Oregon where he got a chance to actually start fly fishing. He had the opportunity to fly fish in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and British Columbia.

After Jim moved back to Florida he got to fly fish the flats in the keys for Snapper, Grouper, Barracuda, Saltwater Gar, Redfish and Trout. He spends about three to four days most weeks on the water. Jim is looking forward to spending time on the water with FFFA and PHW members.

Amy Lombardo loves being out on the water fishing and said: “It brings peace to my soul”.



Our August 18th Fly Tying class will be held at the Cocoa Library aka Catherine Schweinsberg Rood

Steve Lo will teach us to tie the S Lo Glider

Please join us for a fly tying class on August 18th at the Cocoa Library at **6pm**. Please note that we have begun meeting ½ hour earlier! Steve Lo will teach us to tie the Slider. It's an excellent fly for fresh or saltwater & it's a fantastic fly to use in the Everglades!!!

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



President's Message

FFFA members

The weather forecast promised a hot summer, and Florida has delivered — HOT! Our July 21 fly-tying event was led by Bob Arnold, who presented and guided the program. We all learned a great deal from Bob's skill and expertise.

On July 28th, the 1st FFFA club meeting was held at Beef O' Brady's in Melbourne. Many attended to enjoy the excellent food, drinks, and hors d'oeuvres sponsored by the club as we celebrated our 1st event at this new location. Our Education Director, Mike Franz, gave an interesting presentation and shared a helpful handout that encouraged us to reflect on where we are in our fly-fishing journey and where we want to go: fishing more often, with greater confidence and skill.

Our July 31st Lake Washington outing drew six ambitious early-morning anglers. The heat and wind limited the action, aside from many gar catches, (ask Don Foor); but a few successful bass catches helped make the conditions more bearable. After about six hours on the water, everyone was ready for a delicious lunch at Beef O' Brady's.

President's Message Cont.

Every opportunity to get on the water with the talented members of our club strengthens our camaraderie and makes the time together invaluable. Sharing a meal after a hot, demanding day on the water further reinforces our enthusiasm and fly-fishing spirit.

This month, August, our expert fly tier and fly fisherman, Steve Lo, will serve as the fly tying instructor. You won't want to miss his presentation and instruction. Plan to arrive early as the program begins promptly at 6:00 p.m. and ends at 7:45 p.m. at the Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library, 308 Forrest Avenue, Cocoa.

Members from the Project Healing Waters Space Coast Chapter (PHWSC), which meet regularly at the Viera Veteran's Clinic, have been invited to join our club's August Third Tuesday Fly Tying Program. This invitation serves to achieve two FFFA Goals: 1) opportunity to increase our club's membership and 2) promote Fly Fishing in our community. The PHWSC participants are already interested in the fly fishing and many are already members of the FFFA. Veterans who are unable to participate during the day (work or other commitments) will be able to participate in the evening fly tying classes. In turn, this represents a valuable opportunity to reach out to local community anglers who are open to the idea of investing into this rewarding sport, without the initial investment to purchase materials, tools or equipment (which we already have readily available at each program, at NO-COST to our membership). Our Club leaders believe this shared program will grow our Club membership. This event is also your opportunity to invite a guest to become involved, participate and become a New fly fisherman!

Welcome to Jim McKinney who has volunteered to steer the Activities Director position for the remainder of this year.

Doug Rothenbush has stepped up and has organized all of this years fly tying programs with volunteers already assigned with specific flies aimed at certain fish species – Thank you Jim and Doug for this invaluable assistance in duties that Richard Posey has been performing after unexpected vacancies, while also organizing our membership meetings and producing this Outstanding Newsletter—which alone, is no small task. Thank you, Richard!

Speaking of organization and planning, I want to raise an important topic that requires everyone's help and cooperation.

President's Message Cont.

This November, our FFFA members will vote to elect New Board Members to keep the club's goal and mission moving forward. Our Club needs volunteers who are willing to take on the responsibilities of these leadership positions as our current Board Members have served for the past two years. So, it's an ideal time for members to "step-up" and volunteer to serve on our Board, become an Assistant Director or help a planning committee, etc. The primary Board Positions that will be Voted to fulfill are:

- President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary

Additionally, the Director Positions to fulfill are:

- Activities, Programs, Education, Compliance, and Conservation

Please seriously consider becoming more involved by serving in a leadership position in "Your Club" – FFFA !

It's a very rewarding opportunity as you share your skills and talents to guide Our Club's future toward continued success, excellent programs and activities, as well as helping to promote stronger membership and participation. If you are willing to serve in any of these roles, contact any Board Member, to let us know!!!

"A successful fly fishing club is measured not by the fish we catch, but by the knowledge, friendships, and stewardship we build along the way" – President FFFA

Thank you for being the best part of the Florida Fly Fishing Association. Tight Loops...

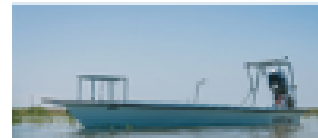
Amir Pishdad, Jr.

President, Florida Fly Fishing Association



FFFA OUTING ON AUGUST 27TH

BALLARD PARK FLY FISHING OUTING



Join us for this very fun Fly Fishing Outing. This is a great opportunity to target and catch Tarpon, Snook, Speckled Trout, Redfish and a variety of other fish.

WHEN

7 am on Thursday, August 27th

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 please contact Jim McKinney, Amy Lombardo or Rick Posey to let them know whether or not you have room for Club member(s) who don't have a boat. Kayaks are also welcome!!!

WHERE

Ballard Park Boat Ramp
924 Thomas Barbour Dr.
Melbourne, FL 32935

Jim will go fishing there in advance to assess the conditions.

We may choose a different location if the fish aren't biting!

WHAT TO BRING

1. Fly Rod (7wt or 8wt)
2. Reel
3. Fishing needle nose pliers
4. Small scissors or nips
5. Washcloth: for fish slime, lol

Recommended Flies

1. Clouser Minnows
2. Shrimp Patterns
3. Baitfish Patterns
5. Crab Patterns
6. Tod's Wiggle Minnow

1. Sunscreen
2. Sunglasses
3. Water - Snacks
4. Hat
5. Suntan lotion
6. Bug repellent



MEET AT BOAT RAMP AFTERWARDS

Let's meet at noon and go for lunch, together (YTB)

Sign up by sending an email to:

FFFAevents@gmail.com attn: Rick & Clyde

You are welcome to contact Jim, Amy or Rick directly.

** If you don't have our contact information, please ask us at the next Club meeting. Or text any FFFA Board Member, to find out.

Captains with boats are needed!

✉ FFFAevents@gmail.com

🌐 www.FloridaFlyFishingAssociation.com

f [FloridaFlyFishingAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaFlyFishingAssociation)

Calendar of Events

August 2026

August 18th Fly Tying, Steve Lo

August 25th Club Meeting, Richard Hart

August 27th Fly fishing outing - Ballard Park, Melbourne FL

September 2026

September 15th Fly Tying, Kevin Sedlack

September 22nd Club Meeting, Dr. Aaron Adams

September (YTB) Fly fishing outing

October 2026

October 20th Fly Tying, Rick Posey

October 27th Club Meeting, Christine Frieseman

October (YTB) Fly fishing outing

November 2026

November 17th Fly Tying, Bill Ledward

November 24th Club Meeting, Election & Open Forum

November (YTB) Fly fishing outing

December 2026

December 15th Fly Tying, Doug Rothenbush & Joel Pomeroy

December (YTB) Christmas Party

NOTE: we will not have a Club Meeting or Outing in December

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

Board Members



President
Amir Pishdad, Jr.



Vice President
Clyde Langley



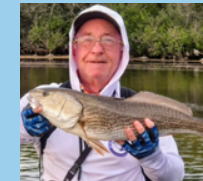
Treasurer
Daryl Gorenflo



Secretary
Don Foor



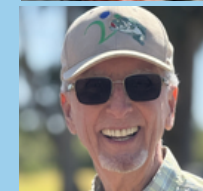
Compliance Director
Jim Potamos.



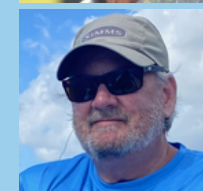
Conservation Director
Bill Ledward



Activities Director
Jim McKinney



Education Director
Mike Franz



Program Director
Rick Posey

FFFA FLY TYING

3RD TUESDAY EACH MONTH - BEGINS AT 6PM
BRING YOUR VISE + FLY TYING TOOLS

CATHERINE SCHWEINSBERG ROOD CENTRAL LIBRARY
308 FORREST AVENUE
COCOA FLORIDA 32922

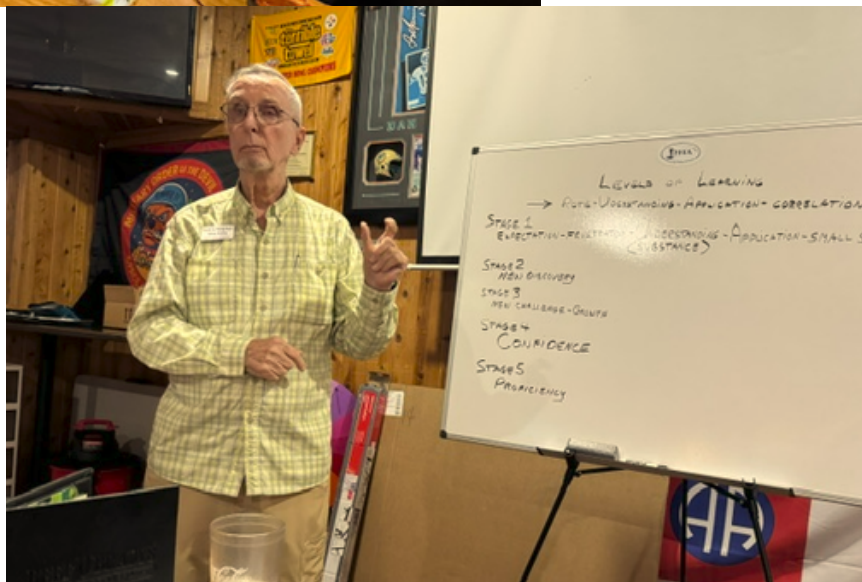
FFFA CLUB MEETING

4TH TUESDAY EACH MONTH - BEGINS AT 6:30PM
ARRIVE 45 MINUTES EARLY TO EAT

Beef O'Brady's

3030 LAKE WASHINGTON ROAD
MELBOURNE, FL 32934

FFFA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ARRIVE EARLY TO
ENJOY THE FANTASTIC FOOD + DESSERTS AT BEEF O'BRADY'S



**PATHWAYS TO FLY FISHING BY MIKE FRANZ
 FOR FFFA CLUB MEETING**



LAKE WASHINGTON OUTING



BOYS + GIRLS CLUB COQUINA POND

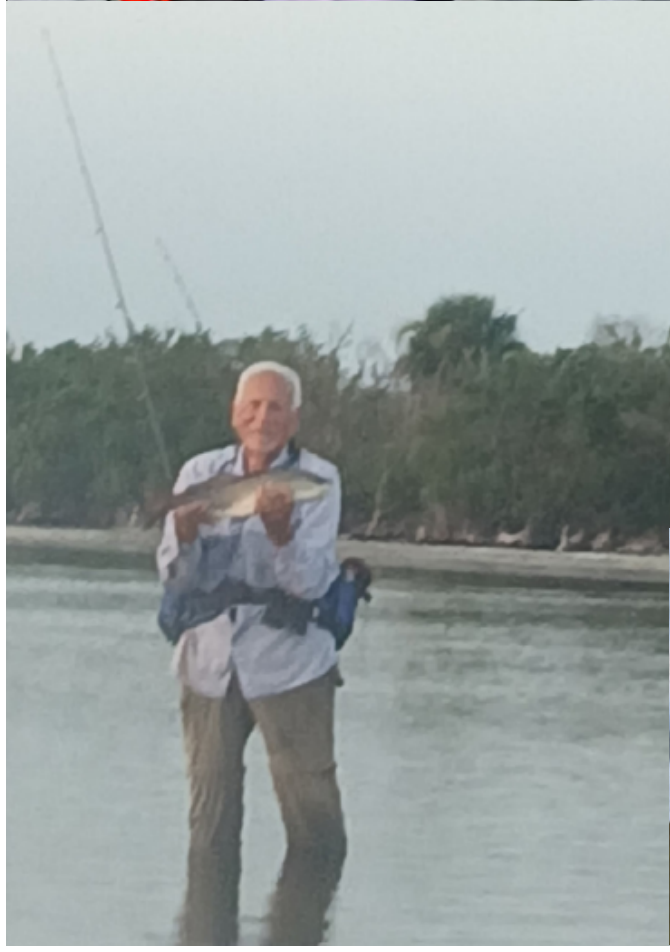


BOYS + GIRLS CLUB

COQUINA POND



BOYS + GIRLS CLUB COQUINA POND



MISC



Florida Fly Fishing Association Species Tracker 2026



Total Species Caught: 53

Current as of 07/24/2026

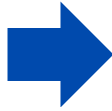
- > Alligator Gar
- > American Shad
- > Armored Catfish
- > **Atlantic Spade Fish**
- > Black Crappie
- > Black Drum
- > Blue Catfish
- > Blue Tilapia
- > Blueback Herring
- > Bluegill
- > Bowfin
- > Brook Trout
- > Brown Trout
- > Bullseye Snakehead
- > Channel Catfish
- > Crocker
- > Flier
- > Florida Bluegill (Coppernose)
- > Gulf Flounder
- > Hickory Shad
- > Holland's Carp
- > Jaguar Capote
- > Ladyfish
- > Largemouth Bass
- > Largescale Mullet
- > Leather Jack
- > Mayan Cichlid
- > Mullet
- > Nile Tilapia
- > Northern Weakfish
- > Oscar
- > Peacock Bass
- > Pearl Cichlid
- > Pompano
- > Pork Fish
- > Pufferfish
- > Rainbow Trout
- > Redbreast Sunfish
- > Redfish
- > Redhead Cichlid
- > Sailors Choice Grunt
- > Sheepshead
- > Smallmouth Bass
- > **Southern Flounder**
- > Speckled Trout
- > Spotted Sunfish
- > Spotted Tilapia
- > Striped Bass
- > Tarpon
- > Tiger Trout
- > Tilapia
- > Tripletail
- > Warmouth

Please send clear, detailed photos to Doug Rothenbush at 402-953-8214 or dougrothenbush@outlook.com

**IF YOU CATCH A FISH WHILE FLY FISHING, + IT'S NOT
ON THIS LIST, PLEASE NOTIFY DOUG ROTHENBUSH**

Club Sponsors & Discounts

SHOP ONLINE OR CALL
FOR AN APPOINTMENT
TO VISIT THEIR FLY SHOP



Clouser's Fly Shop

Club Members Save **15%**
Coupon Code FFFA
at Checkout

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

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

Monthly FlyTying

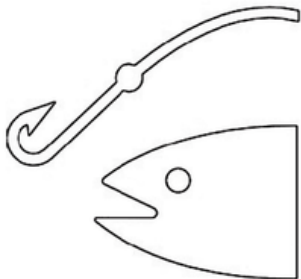
2nd & 4th Thursday

Starting 6pm

Bring Vice & Tying Tools

harrygoodesoutfitters@gmail.com 321-723-4751

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



-Fish Don't Care-

-Flies and More-



FFFA Members Receive a 15% Discount

*****Site Wide*****

Select 'Pick Up' at checkout and your order will be delivered at the next regular FFFA meeting

Kayaks by Bo



1127 W KING STREET (520)
COCCOA, FL 32922

KAYAKS BY BO

10% DISCOUNT ON ACCESSORIES
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ASSOCIATION AT CHECK OUT

<https://kayaksbybo.com>