



THE FISH'N RAG

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
FLORIDA FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 542345
 MERRITT ISLAND, FL 32954-2345

DEDICATED TO EDUCATION, CONSERVATION & FLY FISHING

Editor: Betty Brown

MAY 2010

floridaflyfishing.org

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Welcome to May--the month to honor Mothers and Fallen Veterans.

Take time to remember our mothers and wives on their special day.

Memorial Day is the time of year we need to remember our service men and women. We also want to remember those who have given their life for our freedom.

This month's outing was at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. It was a combination of fishing and area clean up. At daybreak we began fishing. Few fish were caught but the camaraderie was great. Following the fishing we did our part of cleaning up the area under the guidance of Ned Scheerhorn. A big "THANK YOU" to Ned for heading this up. Lunch was

supplied by the club and that was the time we enjoyed telling all of our fish stories and reflecting on the great outdoors. Thanks to all of you who came out and this was one of the best attended outings this year. We are looking forward to the rest of this year's outings to be supported as well.

To all new members who have questions, feel free to call any board member for help. If they don't know the answer to your question, they will know who to ask.

Moms, have a Happy Mother's Day,

Ron

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BUSINESS



BOARD MEETING: The next board meeting will be Jun 7 at Denny DeMuth's home.

DUES: Check your roster for the date your dues are due. They are \$20 per person plus \$5 for family members, if there are any. Send to the P. O. Box at the top of page 1. Make checks payable to: FFFA.

All dues or membership payment should be given directly to Treasurer Chad Helping or his designated alternate or mailed to the P. O. Box on page 1. DO NOT give cash to another member to turn in.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS: If you don't have an FFFA Membership Card, you can get one from Treasurer Chad Helping. Your membership card may need to be presented to our supporters to get discounts for their products or services.

ROSTER CORRECTION

Please make the following pen-and-ink change to the Roster for **Beth Clifford's** email address to: bethclifford@yahoo.com



GMAPP

Top Freshwater Species for May

Bluegill	274 Total; 118 in Kissimmee River
Spotted Sunfish	193 Total; 130 in St. Johns River
Largemouth Bass	178 Total; 89 in St. Johns River
Warmouth Sunfish	81 Total; 41 in St. Johns River
Oscar	76 Total; 40 in Miami Canals
Mummichog	30 Total; 27 in Indian River
Mayan Cichlid	24 Total; 12 in Miami Canals

Top Saltwater Species for May

Snook	86 Total; 72 in Sebastian River
Spotted Seatrout	56 Total; 39 in Banana River
Ladyfish	40 Total; 15 in Banana River
Barracuda	39 Total
Tarpon	25 Total; 23 in Sebastian River
Jack Crevalle	23 Total; 14 in Sebastian River

FISHING REPORTS

This section of the "Rag" is for your reports. Let us know where you're fishing, what you're fishing with and how you're doing. It's as important to know where the fish aren't as it is to know where they are—so give **Randy Cleveland** the info if it's important for an upcoming trip or give **Betty Brown** your info if you'd like to pass on general information or do a little braggin' in the "Rag."



Dave Carbone: "This slot red took a shrimp pattern in the Banana River today (4/28) near the Pineda Causeway. I dropped to one knee after spotting the fish to lower my profile. He took a fly lying on the bottom that I twitched slightly as he passed. As usual lately, I saw many more fish than I could coax to bite. Hopefully the warm weather will stimulate their appetites!"



Ned Scheerhorn & Randy Cleveland fished Naples and found snook up to 3' in shallow, clear water—and *they're still there.* They later fished East River where they found tarpon along the mangrove shorelines. Randy caught a 6 lb bass on an 11" snake. *[That's cheating fellas.]*

Even later, Ned and Randy fished with **Sigmund Sarkady** and **Steve Lo** in the Wekiva River where they caught 25 nice size bream.

Many freshwater lakes around Central Florida are beginning to wake up from the long, cold winter months. Bass, bream and others are coming to the surface in really nice sizes. Several Brevard anglers have reported catching bass up to 12 lbs. If you haven't gotten out there for awhile, give it a try. With many of the exotics It should be a very good year.

MEMORIES

Apr Workshop

Randy Cleveland demonstrated the Bend Back and the Clouser which should work very well on the fishing trip to the MI Wildlife Refuge. *Thanks Randy for bringing us more great flies.*

Apr General Meeting

Andi Renzetti brought us some really good information about his fantastic vises-- how they came into being, where they are now, and where they will be going in the future. A good Q&A session went forth throughout the evening.



Lily Renzetti caught us up on the "Casting for Recovery" retreat coming November 5-7 which will be held at LaCita in Titusville. **Betty Brown** is



helping Lily on the Planning Team and **Beth Clifford** and **Donna Gaber** will be providing fly tying instruction which will help ladies who have had breast cancer surgery learn to do something fun while providing the stretching and strength exercises so vital to their recovery.

Prize winners: Dave Carbone

Tarpon Fly Line donated by **Bill Brown** and a VCR Tape by Flip Pallot donated by **Gini McKain**

Dave Jester
Mac MacIver
Bob Madsen
Gary Nelson

12 Assorted Flies
Shirt donated by the **Rensettis**
Guy Harvey Cap
Book: [Flyrodding Florida Salt](#) by John Kumiski
Stripping Basket
Grab Bag
Renzetti Mug donated by the **Renzettis**

Rikki Ojeda
Steve Roman
Dick Schnoor

COMING EVENTS

WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be the second Tuesday of the month from 6-7:45 p.m. in Room 2 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa

May 11

Randy Cleveland will be bringing back an oldie-but-goodie "Cliffy's Go-To Fly" that Phil (Cliffy) Clifford designed many years ago. It hasn't been demonstrated since Phil brought it to us, but Randy tried it out recently and affirms it's a winner. Material packages will be available for \$1 each on a first-come/first-serve basis. Randy will be there at 6 pm to set up, but others who can't get there until 6:30 won't miss much, if anything, in the tying session. He realizes the 6 pm time frame is an impact for some of you and will try the later time frame for awhile.

Experienced tiers with extra vises are asked to bring them along, so those without can try their hand at tying.

Randy asks that anyone interested in doing a workshop (fly tying, knots, rod/line components, etc.) to contact him as soon as possible.

GENERAL MEETINGS

General Meetings will be the fourth Tuesday of the month at Kay's Bar-B-Q, SR 520, Cocoa; Dinner at 6 pm; Meeting from 7-9 pm.

May 25

Capt. Mike Badarack, of Space Coast Fly Fishing Charters, will be guest speaker tonight. He'll be able to share experiences inshore and offshore from the Mosquito Lagoon to Sebastian. He is especially interested to bring tips on catching tarpon, snook and many other fish that traverse the Indian and Banana Rivers and Sebastian Inlet. It should be a very interesting night. To learn more go to www.spacecoastflyfishing.com.

Prizes will be:

- Fly Tying Reference Book & Assorted Fly Tying Materials
- DVD: "Sport Fishing - Albacore" donated by **Gini McKain**
- Fly line - 8 wt
- Cap "Born to Fish—Forced to Work"
- Grab Bag
- Folding Anchor for a kayak or canoe

FISHING TRIPS

On June 27 we will have a combination fishing trip (sunrise) and family picnic (12:30pm) at KARS Park at the Tiki Hut. There will be games with prizes for kids of all ages. Randy Cleveland will have a sign up sheet at the May meeting. Full details will be in the June newsletter.

HELPING OTHERS

April was a very busy month for us--
as you can see below.

HUNT FOR REDS IN APRIL

The "Hunt for Reds" tournaments each year help raise money for the Kids Fishing Clinic at the Port and other charitable projects.

The FFFA had a good turnout at the "Hunt for Reds in April" in Titusville on April 17-18. Some of the folks there were **Bill Brown, Ron Nemetz, Al Luther, Jon Mallory & Randy Cleveland**—in that order in the photo.



Betty Brown & Lily Renzetti were also there on behalf of **Casting for Recovery**. Thanks to Randy for making CFR fly pins which were available for those donating \$10 or more to CFR. And thanks to the "Hunt for Reds" organizers for including the CFR pamphlet in 500 goody bags for tournament participants.



BREVARD LADY ANGLERS

The Brevard Lady Anglers has been fishing for several years, but is relatively new to fly fishing. Several FFFA members have been teaching them to use fly fishing equipment and how to cast. At recent events, **Randy Cleveland, Al Luther** and **Jon Mallory** have been working their magic with casting lessons. To help these ladies in this endeavor we're asking anyone with used fly fishing equipment they no longer need to pass it along to the Lady Anglers. Just give it to Jim and he'll get it to the right person.



BREVARD YOUTH EXPO WICKHAM PARK, MELBOURNE

The Brevard Youth Expo on April 24 was aimed at bringing organizations and businesses together that provide youth services and programs all in one place. The event allowed parents to discover what there is for their children to do in Brevard.



This was a very special project for **Jack Little** and other FFFA members who were only too happy to show the kids that fishing is a great way to spend their summers--and the rest of their lives.

KIDS' FISHING CLINIC

The 16th Annual Kids' Fishing Clinic, presented by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Canaveral Port Authority will take place on Saturday, June 26, 2010 at the Port Canaveral Cruise Terminal #3, South Entrance—next to Jetty Park. Registration for the kids is from 9 am – 12 pm. This “catch and release” event is for children under age 16 who are accompanied by an adult. Free Shakespeare fishing combos will be given away to participants upon completion of the clinic while supplies last.

Jon Mallory is the coordinator between Skip Harris and the volunteers of the FFFA. He will need to know the names of those volunteers no later than June 26. However, the earlier you let Jon know you plan to volunteer, the greater your chances of getting a T-shirt in your size. Detailed information for the volunteers will be in the June FFFA newsletter.



CONSERVATION

MERRITT ISLAND WILDLIFE REFUGE

Cleanup and Fishing Trip

May 1 – Reported to Ned Scheerhorn

“This month's cleanup trip was a hit with fish caught and trash bagged! We had 10 folks show up including **Jerry Wimberly** and his guest **Bob Graham, Gary Nelson, Sigmund Sarkady, Rikki Ojeda, Steve Roman, Randy Cleveland, Chad Helpling, Ron Nemetz, and Ned Scheerhorn**. The weather was perfect early with no wind and lots of bait. It lasted until about the time to head back for the cleanup. Some nice trout were caught, including Ned's 24-incher, and a wayward bluefish. Rikki and Chad also caught trout. Quite a few kayakers showed up from the club and you would think the advantage would be to them over the waders as far as fish caught but the waders out fished the kayakers 2 to 1. Jacks chased bait and the roseate spoonbills posed in the trees. We bagged 11 bags of trash with Randy and Rikki neck and neck for the honors of largest bag. Sigmund found a hidden trove of beer bottles and added them to Randy's bag to put him over the top. Cash was also found! Leave it to Chad, our club treasurer, to find a dime on the dirt road! A tasty lunch provided by the club included fried and rotisserie chicken, potato salad, beans, rolls, bottled water, and sodas provided by Randy. If you're not making these trips you're missing out on a great time! Hope to see you at the next one!”



Great trout!



Great lunch!



Great bunch of volunteers!

Photos compliments of Ned Scheerhorn.

FOR SALE
CLUB SHIRTS, CAPS, and DECALS

The club has a supply of beautiful FFFA embroidered baseball-style caps with the club's emblem. The fishing caps will be sold for \$15 each at the general meetings. In addition, we can order polo style shirts with the club logo and a pocket for \$20 prepaid for S, M, L, & XL. Larger sizes are available for a little more. (Women's and children's sizes are also available.) All shirts are available in a variety of colors. Order them at one meeting and get them at the next. We have 1-1/4 inch pins with the club logo on them (same as page 1 of the Rag) that are suitable for hats, jackets or shirts for \$5; Fisherman Angel pins are available for \$1 and we still have 2 sizes of decals available which are great for your auto, fishing box, etc. \$1 for \$2 each. Each of the items available is a great way to show club involvement. Why not wear a cap or shirt when you visit seminars, demonstrations or our Supporters? **See Donna Gaber.**

FOR SALE

**Like-new Sage LE 4 wt, 2-PC with
new Ross Flywater Reel 1
for line wts 3-4-5.**

Asking \$225 for all.

Sigmund Sarkady, 723-6246

**ARTICLES OR
"WANTED" OR "FOR SALE" ADS**

If you have an article, a "For Sale" or "Wanted" ad, or anything else you'd like included in the next newsletter, please give the information to **Betty Brown** no later than the Sunday following the general meeting:

Email: lizbrown@cfl.rr.com:
Phones: 321-504-7881 (H), 321-749-9949 (C)
Snail mail: 855 Clifton's Cove Ct., Cocoa, FL 32926



"Chain pickerel."

FWC NEWS

For immediate release: April 6, 2010
Contact: Carli Segelson, 727-896-8626

Photo: Go to MyFWC.com/Newsroom and click on the headline for this story.

Anglers help biologists make big strides in tarpon research

Biologists with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Fish and Wildlife Research Institute and Mote Marine Laboratory continue to gather valuable tarpon information with the help of Florida anglers. By analyzing DNA samples collected by anglers, biologists gain insight into tarpon movement and distribution as well as their ability to withstand fishing pressures.

Biologists use samples submitted to the Tarpon Genetic Recapture Program to identify the tarpon's genetic "fingerprint." The fingerprints provide a unique and natural tag for each individual fish. Scientists compare new tarpon DNA samples with cataloged samples to determine if someone caught and sampled that tarpon previously. Biologists refer to these fish as "recaptured" tarpon.

Biologists have documented 37 recaptured tarpon since 2005. Information from these fish provides valuable insight on tarpon movement. For example, one recaptured adult tarpon traveled 88 miles in 313 days, heading north from the waters off Fort Myers Beach to Long Boat Key. A different tarpon made a similar movement in the opposite direction, confirming that tarpon move between estuaries along the west coast. Another fish, caught in June 2007 in Boca Grande, was captured in the same location nearly two years later. This demonstrates that a tarpon will return to the same body of water during the spawning season.

Angler involvement has increased significantly since the program began in 2005. In the past 12 months, anglers provided more than 2,000 samples, bringing the total number of samples to just over 5,200. Anglers throughout Florida submitted samples from tarpon ranging in length from 5 to 96 inches.

Anglers who would like to participate in this program may obtain a free, easy-to-use tarpon DNA sampling kit by e-mailing TarponGenetics@MyFWC.com or by calling 800-367-4461.

Participating anglers receive an annual newsletter with updates on the program from biologists. As it becomes available, anglers also will receive additional information about specific fish they caught such as when the tarpon is captured again or if it has been captured previously. Anglers who submit a tarpon DNA sample to this program are entered into random drawings for various prizes.

For more information on the Tarpon Genetic Recapture Study, visit <http://research.MyFWC.com/tarpon>.

[NOTE: FFFA member Jon Mallory has been a part of this research since the program was brought to our attention in 2008.]

For immediate release: April 27, 2010
Contact: Lee Schlesinger, 850-487-0554

Grouper fishing reopens in Atlantic and Monroe County waters

The recreational and commercial harvest of shallow-water groupers (including gag, black grouper, red grouper, scamp, red hind, rock hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper and tiger grouper) will reopen on May 1 in all Atlantic Ocean and Monroe County waters. The harvest of these groupers has been closed since Jan. 1 to address overfishing of grouper in the Atlantic.

A 3-fish-per-person aggregate daily recreational bag limit applies for all groupers in Atlantic and Monroe County waters, and the captain and crew of for-hire vessels are not allowed to keep any species in the aggregate grouper bag limit. Anglers may take no more than 1 gag or black grouper (not both) within the aggregate grouper limit in Atlantic and Monroe County waters, and dehooking tools must be aboard commercial and recreational vessels for use as needed to remove hooks from Atlantic reef fish.

[More information on grouper](http://MyFWC.com/Rules) bag and size limits, gear restrictions and fishing seasons, including Gulf of Mexico grouper regulations, is available at MyFWC.com/Rules, click on "Fishing – Saltwater."

CROCODILIAN CAUTIONS

Now that the weather has warmed, you need to be on a careful watch for crocodilian. The FWC advises, if you have concerns with an alligator or crocodile that poses a threat to you, your pets or property, call the FWC's toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (392-4286).

SUPPORTERS

Show your appreciation by stopping by to support the businesses that support us.
[Why not wear your club cap or shirt to introduce yourself as a club member?]



**4, 6, & 8 hour rates for Mosquito Lagoon,
Indian River or Atlantic Ocean offshore
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\$50 discount to FFFA members
Tune in to WMEL 1300 AM Saturday 8-9 a.m.**

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Sat 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**See our expanded fly fishing display area.
10% discount on some items to club members.**

2010 CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, the following days and locations apply:

Board Meetings, 1st Monday of the month, 7-9pm; location as stated below

Workshops, Cocoa Library, 2nd Tuesday of the month; 2nd floor, room 4; 6:30 – 7:45 pm

General Meetings, Kay's Bar-B-Q on SR520 just west of Clearlake Rd in Cocoa, 4th Tuesday (6 pm dinner from menu, 7 pm meeting, 7:30 pm program)

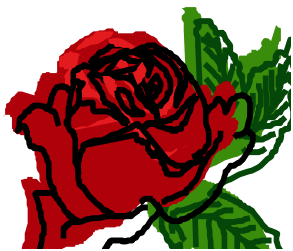
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|---|---|
| <p>May 11 Workshop
 Program: Cliffy's "Go To" Fly
 Presenter: Randy Cleveland</p> <p>May 25 General Meeting
 Program: Fishing for Tarpon & Snook
 Presenter: Capt. Mike Badarack</p> <p>May 31 MEMORIAL DAY</p> <p>Jun 7 Board Meeting
 Location: Denny DeMuth's</p> <p>Jun 8 Workshop
 Program: TBD
 Presenter: Randy Cleveland</p> <p>Jun 20 FATHER'S DAY</p> <p>Jun 21 First Day of Summer</p> <p>Jun 22 General Meeting
 Program: Wild Animal Rescues
 Presenter: Paul & Jennifer Syplen
 Wildlife Center of Central Florida</p> <p>Jun 26 Kids' Fishing Clinic
 Port Canaveral Cruise Terminal 3
 9 am – 12 pm</p> <p>Jun 27 Fishing Trip and Picnic
 Location: KARS Park Tiki Hut</p> <p>Jul 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY</p> <p>Jul 5 Board Meeting
 Location: Ned Scheerhorn's</p> <p>Jul 13 Workshop</p> <p>Jul 27 General Meeting</p> <p>Jul 31 MIWR Cleanup & Fishing Trip</p> <p>Aug 2 Board Meeting
 Location: Rick Anderson's</p> <p>Aug 10 Workshop</p> | <p>Aug 24 General Meeting
 FFFA's 29th Anniversary</p> <p>Aug 28 Fishing Trip</p> <p>Sep 6 LABOR DAY</p> <p>Sep ? Board Meeting
 Location: Ron Nemetz'</p> <p>Sep14 Workshop</p> <p>Sep 23 First Day of Autumn</p> <p>Sep 28 General Meeting</p> <p>Oct 2 Fishing Trip</p> <p>Oct 4 Board Meeting
 Location: Donna Gaber's</p> <p>Oct 11 COLUMBUS DAY</p> <p>Oct 12 Workshop</p> <p>Oct 26 General Meeting</p> <p>Oct 30 Fishing Trip</p> <p>Nov 1 Board Meeting
 Location: Jim Glass'</p> <p>Nov 9 Workshop</p> <p>Nov 11 VETERANS' DAY</p> <p>Nov 23 General Meeting</p> <p>Nov 25 THANKSGIVING</p> |
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The deadline for articles for the "Fish'n Rag" is the Sunday following the general meeting.



FLORIDA FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 542345
Merritt Island, FL 32954



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
May 9