



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

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Donna Gaber, 917-3508

December 2011

floridaflyfishing.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The last 3 years as president of the FFFA it has been a pleasure working with our board members, and members. It has especially been a joy working with Betty Brown who has been extremely helpful in assisting in many ways. Thank you Betty.

Saturday our yearly Christmas party was a fun time for all who attended. Thank you, Donna and Betty, for your help in planning and implementation.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember, Santa shops at Orvis.

Ron

BUSINESS



BOARD MEETING: The December 5 joint 2011-2012 board meeting will be at **Chad Helping's** office. Directions will be sent separately to board members.

DUES: Check your roster or membership card for the date your dues are due. Dues 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. New members have an additional one-time payment of \$10 for the binder.

All dues or membership payments 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. **ALL 2011 DUES ARE NOW DUE. PLEASE GET THEM IN SO CHAD CAN FINALIZE THE 2011 BOOKS.**

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.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We thank the members of the Nominating Committee, consisting of **Donna Gaber, Jim Glass, Steve Lo, Carol Mallory** and **Ned Scheerhorn**, for attempting to come up with a full slate for the 2012 Officers and Directors.

At the end of October, there were four positions left open. At the November meeting three members graciously volunteered for those positions. At this time, there is still one position not filled; that is, the Education Director. We hope to have that job filled by January 2012.

ELECTED OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2012

President:	Bob Graham
Vice President:	John & Terri White
Secretary:	Jerry Wimberly
Treasurer:	Tom Gillen
Activities Director:	Alf Fischer
Conservation Director:	Ron Nemetz
Education Director:	TBD
Program Director:	Steve Roman

All of these people are voting members of the Board of Directors.

Thanks to one and all for stepping up to lead us through 2012.

New President **Bob Graham** has or will appoint members to the following non-voting positions no later than January 2012:

Fishing Trip Coordinator	Volunteer pending
GMAPP Coordinator	Jim Wood
Mentor Coordinator	TBD
Newsletter Editor	Betty Brown
Youth Activities Coordinator	Jon Mallory

MEMBER NEWS

Member Update: **Denny DeMuth** has made his home in Michigan, but plans to maintain his membership with the FFFA. He does plan to come to Florida for short periods several times a year.

If you would like to stay in touch, here's how:

Denny DeMuth
10690 Emerald Drive
Cement City, MI 49233
Home Phone: 417-900-9227
Cell Phone: 321-446-4248
Email Address: ddemuth154@hotmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

We were happy to receive two new members in our club in November:

Joe Koziel forwarded his application to us on November 1. Joe is a fishing buddy of Paul Verderame. They frequently fish the Alligator Chain of Lakes. Joe enjoys freshwater surface fishing and doesn't have experience in saltwater. Fly fishing is very new to Joe, so there are lots of areas in which he can learn and, with a blank canvas, he doesn't have a lot of bad habits to break. Joe has a boat, so if you'd like to use yours or his to take him to your favorite fishing spots, get in touch with him at joekoziel@bellsouth.net. Joe & wife Joan make their home in Rockledge.

Brian Gray received a fly rod as a youngster, but never had a chance to try it out. More than a few years later Brian wants to give it a try and found out about us from a club member. He not only wants to learn to fly fish but he is also interested in fly tying, casting technique, rod building—the whole works. Brian has a boat, so if you can get him out there with you either in his boat or yours and show him not only how to fish, but where to fish, he'll very much appreciate it. Brian lives in Satellite Beach and you can reach him at gnggray@cfl.rr.com.

Welcome aboard fellas. If you have any questions, please give one of the members a call.

[Phone numbers will be available in the roster which is forwarded with this issue of the newsletter. Please check and let Betty Brown know if you have any corrections to make.]

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."

There haven't been any reports of local fishing in November. The high water levels have prevented access to ramps or because fish have too many places to hide.



GMAPP



Top Freshwater Species for December

Largemouth Bass	49 Total; 40 in St. John's River
Bluegill	27 Total; 15 in Susan's Pond
American Shad	25 Total; 25 in St. John's River
Black Crappie	19 Total; 11 in Lake Washington
Sunshine Bass	10 Total; 10 in St. John's River

Top Saltwater Species for December

Ladyfish	182 Total; 141 in Indian River
Spotted Seatrout	117 Total; 74 in Banana River
Snook	57 Total; 42 in Sebastian River
Jack Crevalle	40 Total; 18 in Banana River
Sailor's Choice	31 Total; 31 in Banana River

MEMORIES

Nov Workshop



Thanks **Al Luther** for another wonderful ornament workshop.

HOLIDAY PARTY

A special "thank you" to **Donna Gaber** for arranging for and setting up this year's holiday party at the Viera East Residents Club and to all who brought covered dishes and other items for the club's use.

The winners of the raffle prizes were:

Pat Nemetz 4-wt H&H Rod & Reel donated by Jane Schnoor

Sigmund Sarkady Glass Snook Wall Hanging made By Donna Gaber

Jim Glass Lighted tree with 25 flies
Tree donated by Betty Brown
Flies donated by Jane Schnoor

Lots of photos were taken and will be going out to you later this month.

Nov General Meeting

As usual, the “HOT SPOTS” program was well received; however, it may take us a little while to check them out—waiting for water levels to decrease. The cooler temperatures will not be here long enough to affect the fish, so fishing will be good very soon. Thanks to **Jim Wood** for moderating the program and to **Jim, Chad Helping, Al Luther, Jon Mallory and Ned Scheerhorn** presenting for Steve Lo who couldn't attend.



Jim Wood



Chad Helping

Ned Scheerhorn



Al Luther

There was not a monthly raffle in November because of the holiday raffle. The monthly raffle will return in January 2012.

COMING EVENTS

WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 -7:45 p.m. in Room 2 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa

No workshop in December.

Next workshop is January 10, 2012. Details will be in the January newsletter.

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.

No meeting in December.

The next general meeting is January 24, 2012.

FISHING TRIPS

There are no scheduled fishing trips in December because of the holidays. That doesn't mean you can't get together on your own and have fun fishing.

FOR SALE CLUB SHIRTS, CAPS, and DECALS

The club has a supply of beautifully FFFA embroidered baseball-style caps with the club's emblem. The fishing caps will be sold for \$15 each at the general meetings. 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. **See Jim Glass.**

**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



FOR SALE

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FWC NEWS

For immediate release: November 16, 2011
Contact: Amanda Nalley, 850-410-4943

Successful red drum management prompts FWC to up bag limit

Recreational anglers targeting red drum in northern Florida can soon take home more of the popular fish, thanks to a change approved Nov. 16 by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The decision came during the first day of the two-day November Commission meeting in Key Largo.

The changes take effect Feb. 1, 2012, and include the following:

- Create three management areas for red drum (the northwest, the northeast and the south) instead of one statewide management area;
- Increase the number of red drum that a recreational fisherman can take per day in the northeast and northwest regions of the state from one to two red drum;
- Establish a statewide vessel limit of eight red drum;
- Limit the number of red drum that can be transported on land up to six red drum per person.

These rule changes are the result of a successful management strategy that began in 1989, when the species was considered severely overfished. "This is our version of having a listed protected species and being able to take it off that list. This is a success story," said Commissioner Brian Yablonski about the increased recreational fishing opportunity. "If ever there was a moment to give back, this is it."...

...Other recreational red drum rules will remain the same, including a slot limit of 18 to 27 inches and a one-red-drum bag limit in the southern part of the state.

To learn more about red drum recreational fishing visit MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on "Saltwater Fishing" and then "Recreational Regulations."

[Abbreviated because of space allocation.]

For immediate release: December 1, 2011
Contact: Katie Purcell, 850-459-6585

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

FWC suggests life-saving holiday gift for boaters

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has a suggestion for anyone shopping for a boater this holiday. A new, comfortable life jacket makes an ideal gift, and it could save someone's life. "A lot of people don't wear life jackets because they feel they're uncomfortable," said Capt. Tom Shipp of the FWC's Boating and Waterways Section. "However, with newer models, such as belt packs or suspenders, you hardly feel them. Replacing an old, bulky life jacket with a newer model makes a great gift."

Belt-pack and suspender life jackets are inflatable. Some inflate automatically when a person falls into the water, while others inflate after the wearer pulls a cord. Prices of the belt-pack and suspender life jackets start at approximately \$60.

"Frequently, a life jacket can save a life during a boating accident," Shipp said.

One of the main responsibilities for FWC officers is helping residents and visitors boat safely. They often check boaters for adherence to safety regulations and educate them about safe boating practices. Unfortunately, at other times, FWC officers are called to the scene of boating accidents.

"Many people don't expect to need a life jacket, particularly if they feel they are good swimmers," Shipp said. "However, when boating accidents happen, you may not be able to rely on your swimming skills."

Many of the boating accidents the FWC investigates involve drowning deaths. Last year, there were 79 boating fatalities – 49 of them by drowning. The FWC confirms that life jackets may have saved those lives and recommends boaters wear one at all times on the water. Bottom line: If you fall overboard with a life jacket on, your chances of survival are greatly enhanced.

This holiday season, the gift of a life jacket could be a gift of life.

For more boating safety information, visit MyFWC.com/Boating or call 850-488-5600.

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,
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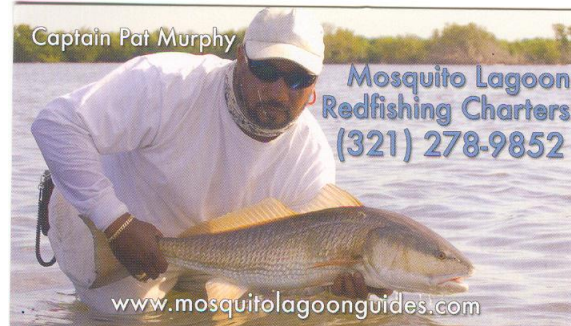
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Discount to members only.



\$50 discount to FFFA club members

2011 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)

2011

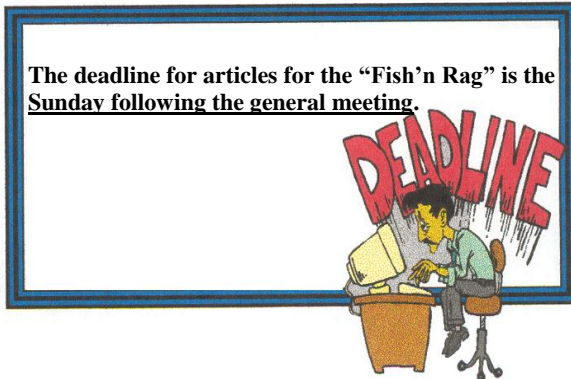
Dec 5 **Joint 2011-2012 Board Meeting**
Location: Chad Helping's Office

Dec 21 **First Day of Hanukkah**

Dec 22 **Winter Begins**

Dec 25 **Christmas**

No workshop, general meeting or fishing trip in December.



2012

Jan 1 **New Year's Day**

Jan 9 **Board Meeting**
Location: Jerry Wimberly's home
Directions will be emailed

Jan 10 **Workshop**

Jan 16 **MLK Day**

Jan 24 **General Meeting**

Jan 30 **Board Meeting**

Jan 31 **Primary Election Day**

Feb 14 **Valentine's Day**

Feb 14 **Workshop**

Feb 17 **St. Patrick's Day**

Feb 20 **Presidents' Day**

Feb 28 **General Meeting**

Mar 5 **Board Meeting**

Mar 11 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**

Mar 13 **Workshop**

Mar 27 **General Meeting**

FLORIDA FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 542345
Merritt Island, FL 32954



Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas
Have a Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year