



President's Letter, December 2020

Suncoast Fly Fishers,

What a difference a year makes. Last year we were planning our first ever SFF Christmas party and we were blissfully ignorant about the Corona virus. This year all of us know more than we ever wanted about Covid-19.

It has been a crazy year but there are some memories and accomplishments worth taking another look at. That first ever Christmas party turned out to be a huge success. Good food, great company and a fine time was had by all. Who could forget former president George Haseltine in his award winning ugly sweater and the fun we had with the secret Santa gift exchange. We won't celebrate as a club this year but like Frosty the Snowman, we'll be back again next year.

In January we had our best ever Trash & Treasure auction featuring the irreplaceable Alan Sewell at the gavel. February was our last regular in person meeting and one of our last regular outings. By the time March rolled around Covid had pretty much knocked us off our pins but it didn't keep us down for long.

By May we resumed our regular outings with a virtual format, fishing but no social gathering and by June we started having member meetings online. We are doing all we can to stay in touch and to serve our members. We have rolled out a new website and revitalized our Facebook page.

We are holding weekly fly tying classes on ZOOM. We have had some great online presentations including outstanding panel discussions on dock light fishing and Tarpon, an entertaining Q&A with Pat Damico, a fascinating interview with television host and Tail Magazine contributor Trey Reid and just last month an in depth and candid meeting with world famous Alpine skier, author and tournament angler Andy Mill.

We are not out of woods yet but the end is in sight. A vaccine will soon be available and the pandemic will be beaten into submission. When it is over, sometime next summer or early in the fall, we are going to get together for a real party.

Planning is already in the works. Keep supporting your club. Renew your membership, keep reading the newsletter and take advantage of everything we are doing online. Most of all have a Happy Holiday. See you next year.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel, SFF President