



President's Letter, March 2021

Suncoast Fly Fishers,

I think we can finally declare that the end is in sight. I am not saying that everything will be back to normal, but I do think we can start thinking about resuming our in-person events.

The criteria that the board is using to decide when it might be safe to reopen would be that everyone that wants a vaccine can pretty much be able to get one and the infection rates start coming down. We think that we will meet that threshold sometime in the Spring. April and May could be too early, and our normal June outing is a socially distanced dock light event. July looks like the right time to start getting back together.

We are planning to have an in-person member meeting on July 15th, and an in-person outing on July 17th. If the situation with the Corona virus deteriorates, we may need to rethink our schedule but for now our plan is to be back in-person by July.

Our first in-person gathering is going to be one of our favorite meetings. Alan Sewell will be the host for a Suncoast Fly Fishers Trash & Treasures auction. I am sure everyone has lots of goodies to share. Let's try and find as many of those hidden gems as possible. I know all of you are anxious to get back together. We will be serving free pizza to everyone!

For our first in-person outing, we are going to return to Ft. De Soto. I know we have been there a lot since the beginning of the pandemic but, it is a great venue and a terrific place to hold a celebration. Bob Burkard and the outings committee are planning a very special event. Look for details in the months to come.

For now, we will still be having our member meetings online using ZOOM. If you haven't given it a try please join us this month. Our guest speaker will be Chris O'Byrne. Chris will be talking about fishing during the pandemic and locating urban places to find fish.

We are still holding fly tying classes online and posting videos on Facebook and YouTube. Please check out our social media sites and share them with your friends. We want everyone to know about Suncoast Fly Fishers and what a great group of people all of you are.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel, SFF President