



President's Letter, May 2021

Suncoast Fly Fishers,

The snook are on the beaches, tarpon are migrating through our area, and SFF is making plans to start meeting in person for the first time in over a year.

Our outing this month is at Cypress Point Park. Let's have an informal get together after the outing. For those of you that have already been vaccinated, I think we can comfortably plan to meet outdoors. Bring your own lunch. SFF will have cold drinks. Share the day's experience and meet with some old friends that you haven't seen for a while.

June is traditionally a fish on your own event, so our official grand opening is going to be in July. Our July meeting will feature the return of our Trash and Treasures live auction with our own Alan Sewell at the gavel. The July outing will be at Ft. DeSoto and our lunch will be Brisket and BBQ plus a few other delicacies thrown in for good measure.

Please do not forget Monday night fly-tying every week at 7 PM on ZOOM until July 5th when in person fly tying classes will resume. Join Bruce Evensen and guest instructors as they help you learn to tie the flies that catch fish.

This month our member meeting is still going to be on ZOOM. Our guest speaker is Dr. Steve Murawski from the University of South Florida College of Marine Sciences. Dr. Murawski is going to talk about Piney Point and other pollution sources in the bay that might influence our local fisheries. Tampa Bay made an extraordinary turnaround from an estuary that was in a steady state of decline to one that has seen water quality improving year to year. Increases in population density and complacency over water quality issues could again put stress on our ecosystem. Steve will be ready to answer your questions and put some of the issues in perspective. Tune into the ZOOM meeting on Thursday, May 20th to get a firsthand look at what is going on. You can also tell us about the snook that you caught on the beach and the tarpon that you pulled from the schools that are now invading our waters!

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel, SFF President