



## Letter From the President November 2021

Last month we decided to return to in-person meetings and events. Maybe some of you didn't get the message. **We're Back!**

This month our member meeting is back at Walter Fuller Rec Center. Our featured speaker is Capitan Ray Markham. Ray is one of the area's best guides and longtime member of SFF. Ray and Bill AuCoin are planning to pre-fish the outing location at Boca Ciega Bay and War Veterans Memorial Park. You can expect Ray to share his wealth of knowledge on the local saltwater fly fishing scene and get the inside scoop on fishing the next outing on Saturday. Before the meeting, look forward to meeting old friends, learning new fly-tying secrets and chatting with the areas friendliest fly fishers. Take a chance at our raffle. We are trying something new. It will be a bucket raffle format. You choose the bucket you want to win and drop your lucky ticket. This is also a good opportunity to renew your membership. We take cash, check and credit card. You can even renew online.

November is our last member meeting of the year, but it is not our last event. December 11<sup>th</sup> is our holiday party. Our inaugural event was two years ago and it was a great time for all. The secret Santa gift exchange and ugly sweater contest provided lots of laughs and the food was outstanding. I hope all our members and guests can join us for this terrific event. December is our Don Coleman memorial outing at Ft. DeSoto. We will be joined by the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club and the Mangrove Coast Club, for a friendly fishing competition and the perennial favorite chili cookoff.

In January we will host a fly-casting clinic presented by a team of experts. Casting is the essence of fly fishing. Not only is it an essential skill that will help you catch more fish but casting a fly rod brings joy and satisfaction that goes beyond just fishing. January will also bring the return of our popular Trash and Treasure auction. This is always an entertaining event. If you have too much gear and want to get rid of some of it, this is your chance. If you have too much gear and still want more, this is also your chance. Auctioneer Alan Sewel will help their trash become your treasure.

Please join us for all of our upcoming events. If you are new to the club, you will find us to be open and welcoming to new members. If you are a member and haven't been to a meeting for a while, we would like to see you again.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick Warfel  
SFF President

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Rick Warfel, SFF President