



President's Message: October 2022

As members of Suncoast Fly Fishers, we are very fortunate to live in the Tampa Bay area. It is literally water, water everywhere. The water is here, it is easily accessible, and the fishing is great!

I grew up in a similar situation on the East Coast of Florida living in Ft. Pierce. Our house was on South Indian River Drive. The Indian River was outside the front door and the Savannah Recreation Area lay past the ridge behind the house. I would go fly fishing in the Savannah for panfish before school in the morning and wade the water in front of the house for trout when I got home in the afternoon. Today I can walk out the back door and fish my own dock where I have caught some remarkable fish on the fly rod.

Locally we have a tremendous variety of fishing opportunities in both fresh and salt water. The bay, the lakes and rivers, the beaches and the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico all hold a wide range of species willing to take a fly.

Not only do we have a wide variety of places to fish, but we also have a unique combination of seasonal opportunities. Here are just a few examples. Winter brings us low negative tide fishing for redfish, Spring starts the migratory run of tarpon, Summer is when snook move to the beaches for their annual spawning run and Fall brings large schools of false albacore eager to take a fly. Tripletail are here year-round but it is always easier to find them after the stone crab traps have been in the water for a while starting in October.

Take advantage of the great variety of fishing locations and seasonal opportunities that our area has to offer. I am going to do my best to hit all the high points this year. I hope each of you will do the same.

Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel