



President's Message: August 2023

I know that it has been hot. Some of our members have left in search of cooler weather and alternate fishing experiences. For those of you that are still here, we have some great events this month.

Our featured speaker at the member meeting will be Jacob Lenges. Jacob is a St. Petersburg native. He grew up around the water and has become a professional guide and fly fishing enthusiast. He will tell us all there is to know about fishing for juvenile Tarpon. Lucky for us this is one species that can take the heat.

I have many fond memories of fishing for baby tarpon in my youth. The mosquito control district in Ft. Pierce is a vast mangrove marsh on the East side of the Indian River. At the time, the water was kept high enough to prevent mosquitoes from breeding in stagnant conditions. Water levels were controlled by flood gates that only let water in during especially high rising tides. When the water rushed in it came with a supply of fresh bait and the tarpon went nuts. You could literally get a hit on every cast but landing them in the narrow mangrove lined canal was decidedly a different story.

Our outing this month will be at Ft. DeSoto. This is always one of our favorite places to fish. There may still be some snook along the beaches and the vast grass flats and mangrove shorelines around the park should hold plenty of snook, trout and ladyfish.

If the fishing doesn't turn out to be as good as we hope, you can just come for lunch. I guarantee that it will be worth the effort. This is our annual Brisket by the Bay luncheon. We will be serving smoked brisket and all the fixings. This is usually a very popular event. I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting on the third Thursday of the month and at Ft. DeSoto the following Saturday.

Thanks. Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

Rick Warfel