



President's Message: February 2024

February is usually the last of the cooler months on the Florida fishing calendar. It is a great time to look for negative low tide redfish opportunities.

Our outing this month will be at Cypress Point Park which is one of the local hot spots for this type of fishing. The fishing can be challenging, and success is not guaranteed however, Anne and Robert Mitchel are cooking hamburgers and hot dogs, so a great lunch is a sure thing.

Our speaker at the February member meeting will be Jill Thompson-Grim. Jill is a graduate school candidate in USF's College of Marine Sciences and was the recipient of the SFF Scholarship a few years ago. She has become one of our members and is a welcome addition to our club. She is excited to share her academic insight with us. (You actually can get too much of a good thing when they serve red snapper to you every day while you're at sea on a research vessel).

On March 16th Dayle Mazzarella will conduct a special casting clinic entitled "Presentations on a Trout Stream". Some of us are planning to travel to North Georgia to go trout fishing on a trip organized by Cliff Nigh and St. Pete Fishing Outfitters. The trip is scheduled for the first week in March. When I go to Dayle's clinic it will be nice to learn everything that I should have been doing to catch trout shortly **after** I should have already been doing it.

The Hog Roast will be on April 6th. We will be having a combined banquet with the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club again this year. This is not only the club's premier social event, but also our primary fundraiser for the year. We earn money from the event by offering merchandise raffles and silent auctions. You can help us out by donating items that might be of interest to our members and non-fishing guests as well. Member tied flies are always very popular.

Get your tickets at our next club event or buy them on the SFF website.

Don't forget to renew your membership. You can pay by cash, check or with credit card and you can renew on our website SuncoastFlyFishers.com. If you have any questions about your membership, please contact Karen Warfel, ph. 813-505-3162, email kmwarfel@yahoo.com.

Thanks. Stay safe and keep fishing!

Rick

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