



President’s Message: September 2024

At the Hog Roast this past April I was fortunate to have the winning bid for a guided trip in Wyoming fishing with club member Dayle Mazzerella. Many of you know Dayle from our casting clinics the club has every year. Dayle not only guides you in some of the most picturesque places, but also provides casting instruction throughout the day. I learned a lot in the days that I fished with Dayle, not only casting or trout tactics, but also some of the history of Wyoming. Dayle is a proud Wyoming native and you can sense it when he talks about the people and the land. Dayle and his wife Barbara were very gracious hosts, having me over for dinner every night I was there. During my time spent with Dayle and Barbara we had good conversations and shared things about our personal lives, happy memories, some not so happy issues in life, some future plans and how we deal with what life gives us. I will be forever grateful for my time spent with Barbara and Dayle.

As I mentioned dealing with what life gives us, I was sitting in the airport in Phoenix on my way home from Wyoming when I received an email about the passing of Dave Olson. In one of my many conversations with Dayle, Dave Olson’s name had come up and we talked about him briefly. For those of you who don’t know, Dave Olson was a pillar in the Florida fly fishing community. Dave was a Florida native who worked and lived on the east coast. Dave was a FFI certified Master Casting Instructor and was the current President of the FFI Florida Council. I will admit that I did not know Dave very well personally, only having met him at last year’s Big Gun Shootout and working with him this past April at an FFI Florida Council event in Orlando. I can tell you how humble and personable he was; I wish I could have gotten to know him better.

As I sat in the airport thinking about Dave, my mind wondered to some of the conversations I had with Dayle. I felt obligated to inform Dayle of Dave’s passing, in his response Dayle added “better enjoy every day”. I couldn’t agree more. Dave Olson died doing what he loved, fishing off the beach for Tarpon.

Enjoy Every Day,

David

David Redd

