

# ***THE BACKCAST***



**THE BACKCOUNTRY FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION OF BREVARD**  
*An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers™*



[www.bffa-brevard.org](http://www.bffa-brevard.org)

**Volume XXII Number II**

**October 2010**



**The Land Captain**

## **Next meeting**

**Wednesday, October 6th, 6:30 PM**  
**Memaw's Bar B-Q**  
**Eau Gallie Boulevard**  
**Indian Harbor Beach**

Our program for October will be by Steve Kantner. Steve is an outdoor communicator and former guide who earned a reputation as the "Land Captain." His articles and commentary have appeared in numerous magazines, and he's currently finishing-up a book about shore fishing for Wild River Press. At one time, he hosted a radio show, and he has appeared on several televised outdoor programs.

He lives in Ft. Lauderdale with his wife, Vicki, and his cat.

Steve will talk about fishing, his adventures, and anything else that "tickles the audience's fancy."

Those of you who have heard him before know that his talks are always unpredictable and interesting.

You can learn more of Steve and his operations from his web site at:

<http://www.landcaptain.com/>

# President's Message

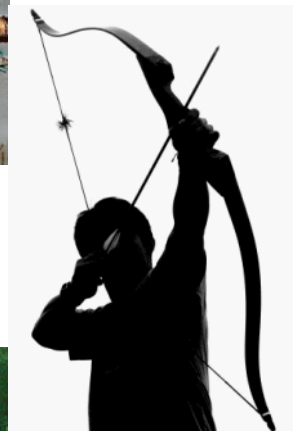
## Feathers Through the Wind

A good friend of mine, an accomplished musician, coined that phrase as a title to a traditional bow hunting song. The title refers to the flight of a traditional arrow, fletched by real feathers, traveling towards its target. In archery, the flight of the arrow captures the essence of the sport. As a very young man, I was fascinated with bows and arrows and was fortunate to be mentored by a bow hunting friend of my father. Those lessons taught by my mentor remain with me today as I prepare for yet another bow hunting season. The fire that was lit some 40 years ago is still intense.

As fly fishers, we also send feathers through the wind in the form of a hand tied fly. The flight of the fly and line is no less fascinating than that of an arrow. Whether we catch a fish or take a deer does not change the fact that the process of shooting a bow or casting a fly line is FUN. Both are process oriented sports. The goal is the catch but the process is paramount.

This month we have an opportunity to introduce a number of young people to the process of fly fishing. At our Kid's Day event, these fledgling fly fishers will be instructed in fly tying, casting, and knot tying. I hope that each of the kids we host that day will gain a lot from the event and become lifelong fly fishers. The future of fly fishing depends on us, the "old timers", to light the fly fishing fire of the kids "the future." If you can attend and volunteer, let us know. If you cannot, then I hope you at least see the smoke.

Don Davis



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## MONTHLY FLY TYING MONDAY, OCTOBER 18TH 6:15 PM MELBOURNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Our tier this month is Stuart Patterson, who will be tying a fly called Norm's Crystal Schminnow. (See the photo below.)

Stuart reports that it was designed by Norm Zeigler for fishing the West coast beaches for snook, but it works just as well for dock light snook and even trout. In fact, he has hooked an 80 lb tarpon on a Schminnow! It imitates both a glass minnow and a shrimp, hence the name. It is a simple fly, but very versatile and deserves a place in everyone's fly box.

A column on the fly is at:

<http://flaflyfish.com/stuarts-flies/155-norms-crystal-schminnow.html>

### Material List

Hook: Mustad S71SZ-34007 in size 2

Thread: White Danville flat wax nylon

Eyes: Black mono

Body: White crystal chenille or 10mm pearl Estaz

Tail: White marabou

Harry Goodes Outdoor Shop has donated the marabou, Estaz, and mono eyes. Hooks will be supplied. Please bring your tying vise, basic supplies (head cement, scissors, etc), and white thread.



## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members:

Rob Henn from Melbourne

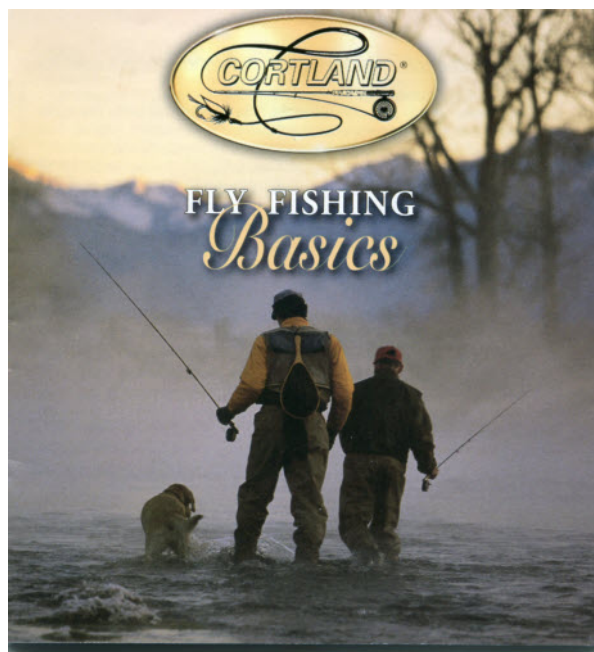
Steve Roman of Rockledge

## TIE FLIES FOR KID'S DAY

All club fly tiers are urged to tie up a batch of flies to present to the kids at our Kid's Day program on October 16. Their fishing opportunity that day will be in freshwater, so bream flies would be appropriate, but any flies will be welcome. Bring a box of your favorites to the club meeting, or contact Frank Catino to arrange a way to get your flies to the kids.

The Kid's Day Program is designed to encourage interest in fly fishing, particularly for youths who may not have a family member with the knowledge and resources to mentor them.

The program will include knots and rigging, fly tying, fly casting, and actual fishing experience. To provide a personalized experience, we are limiting the program to about 10 participants. If you know of youths who would benefit from this program, please get in touch with Frank Catino (Fcatino@cfl.rr.com or 777-5706) to check for available space. Volunteers to assist in coaching any of the skills are also welcome; contact Frank on this also.



## FISHING REPORTS & SUGGESTIONS

The wind has been strong and persistent lately, but one should let that influence where you go, not if you go.

Sherry and Paul Parker report their usual success, near the inlet, although not all on flies.

The new boat ramp in Grant is now open. It has a large paved parking lot, and safer and more convenient entry and exit lanes into US 1. It is still exposed to east winds, but is slightly more sheltered than the old ramp because the spoil islands are closer. Try it some time.

## THE CLUB ON-LINE

Visit our web site, [www.Bffa-brevard.org](http://www.Bffa-brevard.org). Have your fishing pictures posted. Just email JPG files to our web master M.E. DePalma at [webmaster@bffa-brevard.org](mailto:webmaster@bffa-brevard.org)

## E-MAIL DELIVERY

Get your BackCast delivered by e-mail. This will provide you a full color copy and save your club postage. Contact Bill Gunn at [Wtgunnjr@AOL.com](mailto:Wtgunnjr@AOL.com) to get on the list.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

### Special Thoughts

Our special thoughts and prayers go out to Ron Winn's son Brendon, who is serving in Afghanistan.

## OCTOBER OUTING

Our October outing will be on October 9th at Bonsteel Park, on the beach 3 miles north of Sebastian Inlet. We will start at first light and continue as appropriate. Sunrise is at about 7:20 AM, and high tide is about 9:30 AM. We will not do a cook-out this month, but you can have breakfast or lunch at a nearby restaurant.

## FFF NEWS

### Florida Fly Fishing Expo

The time is drawing near for the Florida Council FFF Expo at the Ramada Inn Resort in Celebration, Florida on October 22 and 23. Learn the latest techniques, the best places to fish, which flies to use and meet new like-minded friends. You can see the best fly tiers in the country, cast with some of the best instructors in the world and hear all about fishing opportunities and locations. You will be able to hear seminars from the best flyfishing guides and celebrities statewide (including our own Frank Catino!) and receive instructions from FFF Master Certified Casting Instructors.

This is a social event so bring the whole family and all your friends. There will be a gathering for bar-b-que on Friday evening and a huge banquet on Saturday. A money saving raffle will help you bring home all the latest equipment, take that trip of a lifetime or acquire those wonderful toys all flyfishers need.

Accommodations are beautiful and Ramada has shown their support by offering heavily discounted room rates and free breakfast to all who stay overnight. In addition they will be donating to the council for everyone who rooms with them. So... your stay will assist the council in bringing the services of the FFF to all Florida anglers.

For details, visit <http://fff-florida.org/expo.htm>



### Dues are now due

Each year our club's dues are due from September through November.  
Student \$10, Individual \$20, Family \$30  
Please bring a check to the next meeting, or mail it to  
BFFA of Brevard  
PO Box 524  
Melbourne, FL 32902  
Please include your snail mail and email addresses and phone number (s).

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Recently I came by a couple of recent issues of International Angler, publication of The International Game Fish Association (IGFA). I knew that IGFA was the custodian of world angling records, but not much more, and I was inspired to do a little research.

A little history first. Before 1939 there was no universal code of sporting ethics to guide ocean anglers in their pursuits. Some rules pertaining to sporting conduct were in effect at certain well-established fishing clubs but they varied according to the dictates of each club. The idea of a worldwide association of marine anglers had been brewing for some time in England, Australia, and the United States, and the first steps in this direction were taken in the late 1930's by members of the British Tunny Club who hoped to establish headquarters in England to formulate rules for ethical angling. The threat of war, however, interrupted their plans.

At that same time, Michael Lerner was organizing a fishing expedition to the waters of Australia and New Zealand in conjunction with the American Museum of Natural History in New York. He heard of the British Tunny Club's plans, and when he arrived in Australia he looked up one of the country's finest anglers, Clive Firth, to discuss the idea with him. Firth was well aware of the angling feats of Californians, Floridians, Long Islanders and others. He felt that England and her colonies would accept American judgement as sporting and impartial, and that Americans should be the ones to devise and administer these ethical angling rules.

When the members of the Australia-New Zealand expedition returned to the U. S., letters were written to outstanding anglers, fishing clubs, and tackle manufacturers soliciting their opinions regarding the formation of an international association of marine angling clubs. The response was highly favorable and on June 7, 1939, the International Game Fish Association was formally launched in a meeting held at the American Museum of Natural History.

Although IGFA was founded with emphasis on marine species, they now cover both salt- and freshwater fish.

IGFA headquarters is in Dania Beach, FL, co-located with the Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum. This is well worth a visit, perhaps combined with a neighboring Bass Pro Shop, and also with a fishing trip to the nearby South Florida Canals. The museum is open Monday - Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday 12 pm-6 pm (Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day).

On the second floor of the museum is the E. K. Harry Library of Fishes. Its mission is to collect, document, and preserve significant materials and artifacts relating to the past, present and future of sport fish and sport fishing, and to provide access to these materials. They also accept donations of suitable materials, and are perhaps the future home of my fishing books.

The recent magazines contained several interesting articles. One was on the use of pop-up satellite tabs to obtain post-release mortality data on several species of fish, with various hooks and tackle. Another told the story of a man who has caught 898 species on his way to a goal of 1000.

The work of IGFA in being a voice for the recreational angler makes it a worthy candidate for our financial support. Regular individual membership is \$40 per year, but they also offer electronic membership for the introductory price of \$15 per year. This includes online access to International Angler magazine, access to the World Records Book, and free entry to the Hall of Fame and Museum (regularly \$8).

It is also noteworthy that Steve Huff will be inducted into the IGFA Hall of Fame in October.

The IGFA web site is: <http://www.igfa.org/>

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### Stuart Patterson story

Our fly tier this month, Stuart Patterson, has two daughters, Hope and Holly, who suffer from several neurological conditions including syringomyelia, Chiari malformation, intracranial hypertension and chronic pain. These disorders have caused stress in the family's lives, but have also brought out strength, love, and courage.

Holly decided a few years ago not to sit idly by and allow her disorder to determine her future. Hope was in full support, excited and full of energy as a light appeared at the end of a dark tunnel. The girls decided to raise money to fund medical research. Holly hopes to raise \$40,000 for medical research before she graduates high school. Our entire family has been working wholeheartedly to help reach the goal. Read more about Holly's fund raisers at [www.helpholly.org](http://www.helpholly.org)

Stuart decided to turn his fly tying interests into another revenue stream for his daughters' fund raising ventures. Proceeds from the sale of his flies go to the American Syringomyelia Alliance Project. Stuart says, "Your purchase will result in excellent flies, good Karma, and maybe that little bit of extra luck you need to land that fish of a life-time!"

Visit Stuart's web site at:

<http://www.pattersonsaltwaterflies.com>

# BFFA October 2010 Events

## Monthly Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, October 6th, 6:30 PM  
Memaw's Bar B-Q  
Eau Gallie Blvd.  
Indian Harbour Beach

## Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 13th, 6:30 PM  
(Meet at 5:00 PM for dinner)  
Ron Winn's office  
2103 Grant Place  
Melbourne

## Fly Tying

Monday, October 18th, 6:15 PM  
Melbourne Public Library  
Fee Ave  
Melbourne

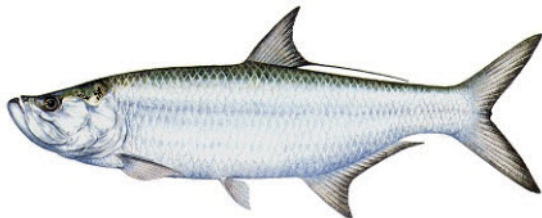
## Next Outing

Saturday, October 9th, first light  
Bonsteel Park



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Tarpon

**Limit your kill, don't kill your limit !**

**Please practice Catch and Release.**