



"NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH FLORIDA FLY FISHERS"

FEBRUARY MEETING
MONDAY, February 16th,
2004

NORTH FLORIDA FLY FISHERS

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 357044
GAINESVILLE, FL 32605

MEETINGS HELD
3RD Monday of each
month at Westminster
Presbyterian Church,
1521 NW 34th Street.
Socializing begins at
7:00 PM. Program starts
at 7:30 PM.

2004 CLUB OFFICERS

President
Jodi Slapcinsky
386-454-2037
jslap@yahoo.com

Vice President
Richard Nalli
352-332-2728
nallimon@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Charles Branagan
352-372-9803

Secretary
Norm Thomas
386-294-2911
nthomas@co.alachua.fl.us

NFFF Club Website
www.nfff.netfirms.com

Newsletter Editor
David Allerton

Individual Highlights:

PAGE

What's Happening	1
Book review & Shad	2
Such a deal...	3
Club Sponsors	4

WHAT'S HAPPENING

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Monday, February 16th, 2004

Dr. James McCully will be our February 2004 Speaker.

His presentation title: "Everything you ever wanted to know about the tides and tide tables."

Dr. McCully is a retired radiologist and a member of the First Coast Fly Fishers Club in Jacksonville. Jim has written a book on tides and he will answer questions about the topic. Don't miss this informative program.

ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS

JANUARY 2004 MEETING

Norm Thomas has volunteered to join the NFFF board. Anyone wishing to follow his courageous steps can claim another Board position. Current Board members, Jodi Slapcinsky, Richard Nalli and Charles Branagan have signed on for another hitch. **Take time at the February meeting to thank each one personally for their devotion to the NFFF. They deserve it and a lot more.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CLUB MEETING LOCATION CHANGE!!

**NFFF will meet at the Westminster Presbyterian Church,
1521 NW 34th Street Gainesville**

NFFF SHAD OUTING: February 15, 2004!

Particulars to both venues available at the NFFF
website: www.nfff.netfirms.com.

DUES AGAIN!

YES, DUES!

Painless, Painless

Bring your check book or cash with you to the February meeting, pay those dues and enjoy a guilt free year of NFFF fun.

BOOK REVIEW

"The charm of fishing is that it is elusive but attainable. A perpetual series of occasions for hope." - John Buchan

Beloved Waters
by Paul Ford
Frank Amato Publications, Inc.

Reviewed by Bruce E. Harang

This small book contains eight short outdoor stories that carry the reader into a place where only dreams are found. Not only do the stories transport the reader into them, they evoke wonderful memories each reader has of his own outdoor memories. Centered on fishing these stories are a personal journey of the author. But a journey that allows the reader to gaze through the author's eyes and see the wonders of nature as the author saw them. The descriptions of the weather, the creatures, and the sensual perceptions are amazingly well done. The reader cannot help but smell the tidal muck, and hear the prehistoric squawking of the heron.



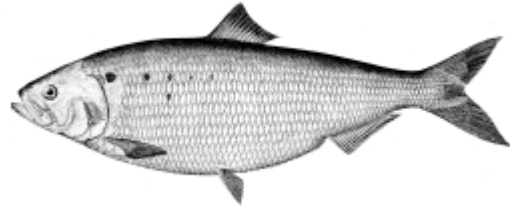
Many of us have traveled similar roads, but few of us can so sensually describe them with the written word. This is a wonderful winter read in front of a warm fire. When you are tired of reading commercials about far off hot spots, and blow-by-blow descriptions of how to catch large fish this book will bring you to a place where you can once again remember wonderful days afield.

(Excerpt From the FFF Clubwire)

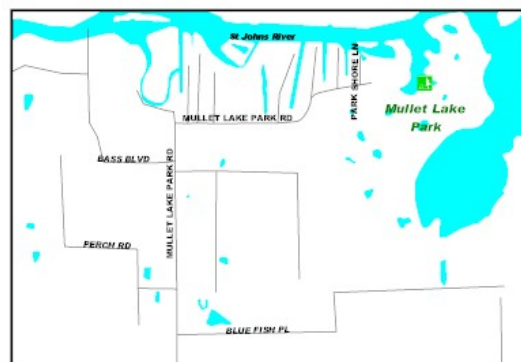
February shad

NFFF SHAD OUTING

Coordinator: Jodi Slapcinsky
Date: Sunday, February 15th, 2004
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Mullet Lake Park



Directions from Gainesville: Head south on SR 441 or I75 to East SR326. Turn left on 326 till it dead ends on SR40. Turn left (east) on 40. At Barberville, turn right (south) onto US17 heading towards Deland. Turn right on SR15A- the road forks at this point and SR15A is the Deland bypass. Continue south till SR15A connects with US17/US92/SR15. Turn right on US17/US92/SR15 and continue to SR46, passing the Zoo and the waterfront at Lake Monroe along the way. Continue past SR46 WEST and turn left on EAST SR46.. Continue East on 46, aka as Geneva Road, till the sign for Marina Isle Fish camp Road. Once past Marina Isle, keep a lookout for the Osceola Rd. intersection. Turn left at Osceola and head east till it intersects Mullet Park Road. Turn left onto Mullet Park and follow into the park.



SUCH A DEAL I GOT

The other night in a rag-chewing session among a bunch of us fly fishers, fly tyers, and hangers-on, the subject of buying fly fishing gear came up and branched into buying on the Internet, particularly on e-Bay. Some were bragging about the lower than list prices available that way, citing some of the deals they made.

An objection was raised that these good deals and the -Mart buys were taking business away from the local fly tackle shops. It was an objection that was hooted down by those concerned with getting the best price without considering the ultimate price they're going to pay.

Many members have always pumped their own gas and can't remember the days when the pump-jockey washed the windshield and checked the oil and the tires while the gas was pumping-at no extra charge, all for the price of the gas. All of this is history now-gone because of gas shortages, higher overhead, and the "bargain" prices. Gone too are the guys who would change windshield wiper blades and fan belts for the price of the parts; who could give you directions to almost anyplace within a ten mile radius; who would tell you road conditions or where the next motel was; who gave you a friendly smile and a cheery greeting. And every once in a while, the guy was a gal. (I know that you don't pump your own gas in some states, but try getting any service from that minimum wage slave who pumped your gas.) Now, with a credit card, you don't have to come face to face with a real person, and if you ask directions or road conditions, you get a

dazed look and a "Huh?" If you want a light bulb, wiper blade, or fan belt replaced, you're lucky if you can by paying a hefty "service" charge, even if you furnish the part, and you usually have to. Often you have to get it done at a dealer's garage-and then paying for overhead charge and more.

Well, folks, while I'm not denying that the price of rods, reels, lines, and everything else is too high, it's not the local dealer who sets those prices. When you buy that stuff on eBay or at -Mart, you're denying that profit margin that keeps his shop in business.

The minute profit from flies and tippet material and other small items won't pay the rent, light bill, small salaries, insurance, and all the other expenses required to keep a shop open. And you wonder why, when you bring in that line you got at -Mart and want it loaded on the reel you got for 55% of list on eBay, the guy behind the counter makes you pay for the backing that was often free when you bought the reel and line at the shop.

Try finding out what's working on Muddy Creek or when the shad run will start on the river on eBay. Ask the clerk at -Mart, if you can find one, to rig up that rod and reel outfit you got for such a bargain. These and all the other free services you used to get at the local shop aren't available on-line or at -Mart.

As more people do their major item buying do so on eBay and at -Mart, that friendly guy at the fly shop is going to go the way of the pump-jock of recent history. What are you going to do then?

Such a deal I got!

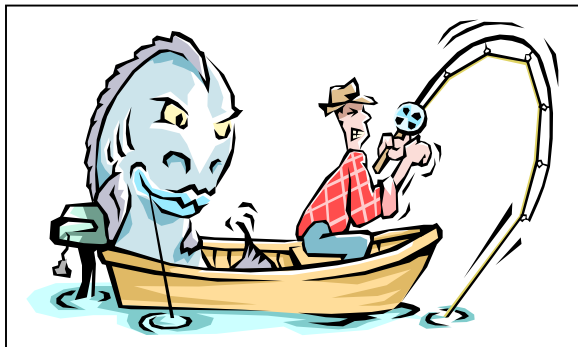
(Copyright " 2002 John W. Colburn John Colburn, FFF Mid-Atlantic Council)

Please Support the Following Advertisers

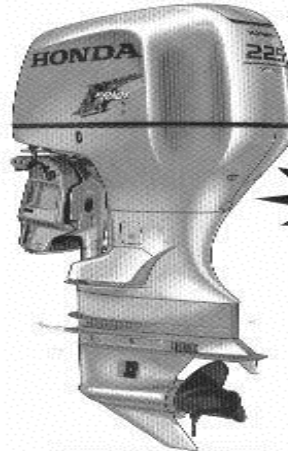
STH SCIENTIFIC ANGLERS G. LOOMIS
ST. CROIX CORTLAND DIAMONDBACK



THE TACKLE BOX
ALL THE GREAT NAMES IN FLY FISHING!
5902 HAWTHORNE RD, GAINESVILLE
352-372-1791



You've Got to See It to Believe It.



- Double Your Range!**
- Meets EPA 2006 & CARB 2008 Emissions Standards!**
- New From Honda!**

- 225 hp, V6, 4-stroke outboard.
- Honda design offers incredibly quiet operation.
- Convenient single (or dual) rigging thanks to narrow 26" profile.
- Smooth, powerful acceleration with exclusive Honda VTEC System.

P&J Marina
100 NE 23rd Av
372-4900

HONDA MARINE

IT'S ALL ABOUT POWER.

*Compared to average 225 hp 2-stroke outboard of 1999 spec. Always wear your seat belt or proper fall protection and read your owner's manual. ©2007 Honda Motor Co., Ltd.

GAINESVILLE, FL 32605
PO BOX 357044
PICAYUNE