

THE BACKCAST



**THE BACKCOUNTRY FLY- FISHING ASSOCIATION OF
BREVARD**



Volume XXXV Number V

February 2025

February 4th meeting:

6:30 at the Italian American Club

1471 Cypress Ave

Melbourne

Virginia H. Barker, Director

Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department

Virginia Barker completed undergraduate degrees in Science and Math at Duke University and returned to Duke after 5 years of professional work to pursue a Masters in Coastal Environmental Management. Her thesis was in Resource Economics. She has worked in Sri Lanka for US AID, as a research diver for the Florida Department of Natural Resources, and in marine and environmental management positions for Monroe County and Brevard County. Ms. Barker currently serves as the Director of Brevard County's Natural Resources Management Department. During nearly 25 years with the County, she has been responsible for beach management, the stormwater utility program, mosquito control, Indian River Lagoon efforts and numerous other environmental initiatives and programs. In 2016, Virginia spearheaded development of the science-based Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan and establishment of a Citizen Oversight Committee. The Project Plan and Oversight Committee guide how a new ½ cent sales tax that was approved by Brevard voters will fund nearly \$500 million of pollution elimination efforts to restore healthy conditions to the Indian River Lagoon. Implementation of the 10-year Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan began in 2017.

For some other information about the Lagoon type in the link below here.

<https://onelagoon.org/wp-content/uploads/2024AnnualRept-FINAL-11-20-2024-ADA.pdf>

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Ramblings and Such

February

There have been some decent reports of Shad being caught in the last few recent days. Most of the action reported has been coming from the C.S. Lee area and south.

March Auction

We will be having our annual auction on March 8th at Billy Kempfer's ranch. This is our one and only auction which raises the money we use to bring in our annual speakers, such as the recent program headed by Jeff Currier. So, we need everyone to dig into their treasure trove of items that they no longer use and donate them to the club auction. The premise will be the same as last year and items once again there will be some items being put up for bid on the live auction and then other items being offered on the silent auctions going on. Remember that the items you bring should be new or gently used. We really need items this year and if you know what you will be bringing let us know. Thanks

Lagoon Action

After this recent cold spell the temperatures are looking to get back to somewhat normal this week. Fish are moving out on the flats and enjoying the warmer areas. Dark areas of grass are sure to heat up quicker and should be holding more fish.

Listed below are some of the items that have been donated for the upcoming auction which might be either in the live or silent auction. If you have an item, know what it is already and want it added to this list then feel free to send it over to me and I will update the page. If you have a picture of the item(s) and want to send that over as well then feel free to do so. Updated items added in will be on our Facebook page and the website.

Item	Qty	
<u>7'6" 4/5 wt Fly Rod</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Van Stall Service Kits</u>	<u>2</u>	
<u>Zeebaas Spinning Reel</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>8'6" 4 wt Fly rod 4 -piece</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Hardy Reel The St. Aidan</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>plus two extra spools—England Made</u>
<u>Hardy Reel Ocean Prince</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>England Made</u>
<u>Hardy Reel LRH</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Plus three extra spools</u>
<u>Hardy 5wt Reel Spool</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Stil Elises's 10 wt Reel</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Scientific Master 8 wt Reel</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Scientific Master 10/11 wt Reel</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>Native Kayak 16'</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Donated by Mike Reynolds</u>



Jeff's Corner

February's fly is a "Devil Bunny Fly"

Recipe:

Hook: FTD OS700 #1/0

Thread: 210 Black

Tail/Collar: Tiger Barred Rabbit

Eyes: Silver Bead chain



Devil
Bunny
Fly

Tie on thread base to hook bend
Attach Bunny strip at the bend



1

Tie on 4 short clumps of
hair strips around hook
shank top sides bottom



2



Add eyes and build up
thread at the head
Wrap to front and whip finish

3



Epoxy or Clear Cure entire
head and hook shank

4

Recent Redfish Action from the Lagoon.



BFFA February 2025 Events

Monthly Dinner Meeting:

February 4th at 6:30
Italian American Club—
1471 Cypress Ave. Melbourne

Fly Tying:

Feb 17th Melbourne Library 6:15 p.m.
Everyone needs to bring their own fly-
tying tools. Jeff will have the materials
and hooks for the fly.

Outings:

We will keep an eye out for
the shad run this year and hope to
meet up in February on the river.

Board Meeting:

February 11th 5:00 meet at Ron Winn's
office 2103 Grant Place Melbourne All
members are welcome to join. We typically eat
at Megs first and then rejoin at Ron's office
around 6:00

If you need to mail in a check for your dues send them to the below address.



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