



# F3 NEWS & VIEWS

## Florida Training for Fishing in the Schools

Thanks to a donation from Pure Fishing, the Future Fisherman Foundation conducted an angling-education training workshop in Lake Placid, Fla. October 15-17. Educators from elementary and middle schools across the state attended the training at Camp Cloverleaf, a 4-H facility on Lake Francis. Some of the teachers who attended are pictured in the accompanying photograph.



The training launched the Physh Ed Florida 2010/2011 grant program, which supports angling education and aquatic conservation as part of the curriculum. The workshop was presented with the assistance of F3 partners at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), University of Florida 4-H (UF4-H) Sport Fishing program and Fish Florida. Teachers who had implemented the Physh Ed program in previous years were also in attendance to provide advice to the teachers and demonstrate successful activities.

Participants learned about state aquatic conservation and angling regulations, state resources available to school programs, spin-casting and fly-fishing skill development, tackle and equipment procurement and repair; and aligning lessons and field activities with state standards of learning. Teachers participated in numerous hands on activities and received supplemental resources and equipment that was generously donated to the program by Pure Fishing, Mr. Crappie, BoatUS Angler and Fish Florida.

“The teachers eagerly absorbed the information and had the opportunity to see how experiential education is an effective tool for teaching science, math, physical education and aquatic conservation, said F3 Director of Education Teresa Rodriguez. “Many remarked that they had originally applied for funding to start small fishing programs but now had curriculum and hands-on training that gave them confidence and knowledge to expand their program to include additional units of study such as conservation, tackle crafting and aquatic-stewardship service learning projects.”

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The teachers also learned ways to share their program with their community and partner with local organizations help enrich their program. They will continue to network with each other to share information through regular conference calls and online. The Foundation is working with its partners at FWC and UF4-H to continue training additional Florida teachers who want to implement Physh Ed at their schools.

## **HOFNOD Instructor Workshop**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Aquatic/Angler Education Program will present a Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs Instructor Workshop Monday and Tuesday, November 8 and 9, 2010 (must attend both evenings), from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The location for the workshop is the Clay County Extension Office, 2463 State Road 16 West in Green Cove Springs, Fla. For more information please contact Steve Marshall, Angler/Aquatic Education Coordinator, Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 9557 Majestic Way, Boynton Beach, FL 33437, (561) 292-6050 or [Steve.Marshall@MyFWC.com](mailto:Steve.Marshall@MyFWC.com).



## **Sharon Rushton Enshrined in Hall of Fame**

Congratulations to our close friend Sharon Rushton. The Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame in Hayward, Wis. recently announced she will be one of their 2011 enshrinees.

Sharon has made significant contributions to freshwater fishing throughout her career, using her leadership and communication skills. Her work has touched youth and families throughout the U.S. Most of her life has been dedicated to promoting the outdoors, particularly fishing and developing programs that introduce people to fishing.

Sharon is probably best known as the founding executive director for the Future Fisherman Foundation. She developed F3 into a national organization that promoted fishing education, recruitment and retention, and helped establish sportfishing and aquatic-resource education programs in state fish and wildlife agencies throughout the country. She developed, enhanced and administered the Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs program and initiated and supervised the development of the National 4-H Sport Fishing Program. Sharon also helped establish the first Aquatic Resource Education conferences and encouraged the development of the Aquatic Resource Education Association (AREA).

Congratulations, Sharon! You are richly deserving of this honor.

## F3 Visits Catfish Tourney

On September 25, 2010, F3 Director of Education Teresa Rodriguez joined 40 young anglers from the Old Dominion Boat Club in Alexandria, Va. at their annual Catfish Tournament. Anglers ages 3 to 15 enjoyed a morning of fishing and a picnic lunch with their friends and families. Steve Chaconas, a D.C. area fishing guide, gave advice on casting and hooking the bottom-dwelling fish, and Teresa shared information on how to begin a fishing program at schools and community centers.



Each participant received an F3 DVD to share with their family and school, along with giveaways from BoatUS. Teresa and Steve stressed the importance of educating both parents and youth on basic angling skills and the importance of spending time together outdoors.

Thirteen-year-old Margaret Hudack, pictured here with Steve Chaconas, agreed that fishing is a fun way to spend time together outside. She landed the largest fish of the day, a 20-inch catfish.



## Wildlife Forever State Fish Art Contest

Teachers, introduce your students to aquatic conservation through Wildlife Forever's annual State Fish Art Contest. Students in grades 4-12 can learn about fish species and their habitat by drawing, painting and sketching their state fish. Participants are eligible for national recognition and prizes such as fishing gear. Teachers can request a free "Fish On!" CD-Rom that includes lesson plans and content to implement this program in their classrooms. Deadline for the contest is March 31, 2011. For more information, visit [www.statefishart.com](http://www.statefishart.com).

## **Donations**

The Future Fisherman Foundation wants to thank the following individuals and companies for their generous donations, which help F3 ensure the future of fishing!

Bass Assassin  
Bass Pro Shops' CrappieMasters Tournament Trail  
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Plano Molding  
Pure Fishing  
Wright McGill (Eagle Claw)  
Shelly Crant-Baggett  
Jeffrey and Patricia Marble  
Tim Mead  
Lisa Snuggs  
Larry Thornhill

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