

SW FLORIDA FISHING

From the mountains to the flats ...

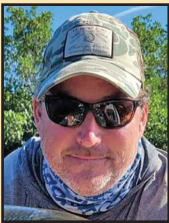
■ BY CAPT. JOE LECLAIR

With the cooling air temps and beautiful dry breezes blowing in from the west, fish are on the move. This fall we have already seen large schools of reds moving onto the flats around Charlotte Harbor. Mullet by the thousands are scrubbing the grass and circling the shallow bars. This means the larger predators are eager for flies and lures at this time of year. The number of schools of both redfish and small snook is encourag-

ing. Waters are still warm and sharks and rays are everywhere. With all the hurricanes and flooding we have seen in recent years it is nice to see what a normal year looks like again. I recently took a solo camping trip to the mountains of western North Carolina with hopes of catching wild trout on the small mountain streams. North of Asheville and along the Blue Ridge Parkway I found many of the roads open again and life returning to normal. I hiked up to the

Curtis Bend Campground, which is still closed and it was absolutely unreal. The autumn colors and the calm splendor of that small mountain stream was surreal, just one year after 20' of water was gushing down through the valley. I found wild trout in those streams. If they can survive that, there is hope ... and joy ... and everything that comes with it.

Capt. Joe LeClair
can be reached at
(774) 263-2675 or
at flyfishsalt.com



Come Play Riverwood Golf Club

Rated 22nd in Florida by
Golf Adviser Golf Pass for 2025
Just 13 miles from Boca Grande
Tee Times maybe made
7 days in advance
941-764-6661 Ext #1
www.riverwoodgc.com

RIVERWOOD

THOROUGHbred GOLF CARTS

"A Breed Above the Rest"

- We sell LSV and e-bikes
- Rentals
- Storage
- Service
- Customizing

www.tgcarts.com
941-698-1010 • 3301 Placida Rd, Englewood

Exceptional Service ... Fair Prices

WATER HEATERS	24 HOUR EMERGENCY	FREE ESTIMATES	STOPPAGES
DISPOSALS			SLOW DRAINS
FAUCETS			DRIPS, LEAKS
TOILETS			PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE
SHOWER SYSTEMS			REMODELING
WATER FILTRATION			NEW CONSTRUCTION
LATEST IN: REVERSE OSMOSIS SYSTEMS			REPIPES

FIVE STAR PLUMBING

OF SW FLA., INC.

(941) 964-0345

7630 Sawyer Circle, Unit #6
Port Charlotte, Fla, 33981
5StarPlumbers.com
State Certified - CFC1428616

MARINEMAX

Cape Haze

Venice Sales Office

1485 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice

BOSTON WHALER

SPECIALISTS

Minutes from Your Dock. Why drive for hours?
We'll bring it right to your dock.

We are your
Local Dealers:

SEA RAY

GALEON

Capt. Tom Healey
941-626-3741