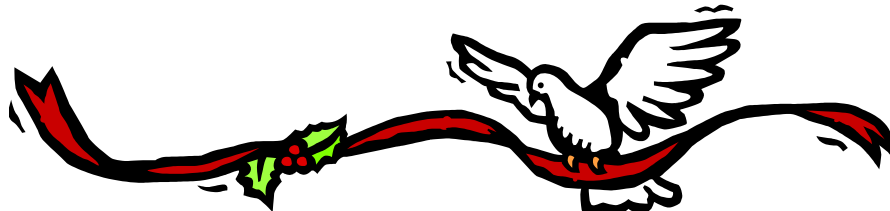




**Next Meeting 3 Dec
0600 to 0900 PM**

Annual Holiday Party

- Enjoy Grits, grunts and hush puppies prepared by Robert, Lance and Alligator Bob
- Member pot luck: appetizer, salad, desert or ?
- Free raffle for a one half day guided fishing trip
- Silent auction for a Loomis GLX 8 wt fly rod
- Gift exchange (\$10-\$15 wrapped items)
- Swap table for fishing items



Directions to Our Meetings (0600pm): From I-75---Take Bruce B. Downs exit from I-75; go west 2 miles to traffic light, turn left on to Tampa Palms Blvd., then left on Compton Drive, and right at Compton Park. From I-275---Take Bearss East to Bruce. B. Downs; then Bruce B. Downs east/north to Tampa Palms Blvd. Rt. on Tampa Palms, then left on Compton Drive and right at Compton Park.

NOVEMBER 2014 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to December and our annual Holiday party. Please join us for holiday cheer and camaraderie. Bring a wrapped gift if you wish to participate in the gift exchange.

I hope you all enjoyed our presentation last month on DIY fishing in Juneau, Alaska. We welcome ideas from members on interesting and informative speakers. Please let us know if you have a good prospect. One of our great Captains, Pat Damico will speak in January.

Denise is starting a 2015 club calendar, which we will add to the newsletter in January. Please help us update it with items of interest.

We will collect annual club dues (\$25 for singles) starting in January. Please send or give payment to our treasurer, Rick Valari.

// Walt Durkin 

EVENTS

- Play Hooky, Dec. **12 Dec**, Port Manatee
- Don Coleman outing, **20 Dec**, Ft Desoto
- Annual Shad outing to the St John's – **TBD in Jan or Feb**

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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| Rick O'Hara | 813-238-6763 |

2014 TBFFC MEETING DATES

This month's meeting is 3 Dec followed by 7 Jan 15. Please watch this space for any changes

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

9 Nov: Annual Big Gun Shootout. We hosted our Big Gun on Picnic Island to rave reviews. About 50 folks attended and had a great time. Congratulations to Bryon Chamberlin, Nick Angelo and Colby Hane for winning as a team with a score of 1300. They narrowly edged Dave Chouinard, Chris Homer and Greg Peterson who scored 1290. Nick also tied with Cas Summers for the high individual score of 480 out of 500. Finally, Nick won the Big Gun long cast carrying 123 feet in the final. Other casters threw longer during qualifying and practice, but Nick delivered under the gun! I have emailed the spreadsheet with all the scores to newsletter recipients.

12 DEC: Play Hooky at the Port Manatee Hatchery. Arrive at 0800 hours to start fishing their ponds. Gina Russo will provide a lecture and tour starting around 1000. Bring 4 to 8 weight rods and small flies to fish for tarpon, snook and reds. Alligator Bob will provide lunch and the club will provide drinks. Sign up at the Dec meeting for a head count.

20 Dec: Don Coleman Outing: From Kirk Burton of the Suncoast Club. We hope you will join us to celebrate Don Coleman and fly fish Desoto on 20 December this year. Fishing starts at daybreak (park opens at 7:00 am) and we will have chili for lunch at noon. Lunch will be at the Gulf Pier pavilion adjacent to the Fort parking lot. SFF will provide chili and drinks, attendees are encouraged to bring a side dish to share with the group. This is always a fun outing so come out and enjoy Fort Desoto's famous fishing with us.

6 Dec: The Suncoast Club will host a casting clinic at Maximo Park. Improve your fly casting with Dayle Mazzarella, Pat Damico, and John Hand, IFFF Master Casting Instructors, as well as Leigh West and Steve Parker, TBFFC expert instructors and casters. Free to IFFF members. Others, just \$50. Better yet, you can join IFFF at this event for just \$35, regular or \$25 seniors, and then you can attend the outing for free. Maximo Park is next to O'Neils in St. Petersburg, just off exit 17 on I275; 8 am - 8:30 check-in. We will have some equipment for those who need it. A 6-wt. to 8-wt. rod with a 7-8 ft leader is recommended. We will have leader material, yarn, name tags, etc. We will familiarize participants with the format, layout, schedule, etc.

Fly of the Month

Instructions

1. Tie in the white hackle feathers, three on each side with the feathers curving in, not flared.
2. Tie in several strands of flash along each side
3. Tie in a collar of white fox tail in front of the hackles and extending back over the hackles.
4. Next, build the body by spinning the white deer hair in small bundles forward leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.
Hint: Hair tips will point to the back. Place a small bunch of hair around hook, secure with two loose wraps, pull your thread down firmly; hair should spin.
5. Spin two clumps of red hair to finish the head.
6. Remove from vice and trim the body with a razor blade flat on the bottom. Trim the rest of the body to a tapered mullet shape.
7. Attach the eyes on each side using goop or other glue.

Fish among schools of mullet or along mangroves.



Mullet Fly tied by Mike Perez

Materials

Hook: Gamagatsu 1/0
Six white hackle feathers
Holographic and crystal flashaboo
White and red deer **belly** hair
 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch 3-d silver eyes

Tips for TBFFC: No. 77

Practice Suggestions: Attend a Big Gun! Everyone who attended our Big Gun event had a chance to learn from our fantastic participants. There were constant discussions about how to improve casting skills. Distance, accuracy, loop size, back cast, casting in all wind directions, line and rod selection were just some of the topics. All skill levels were represented. This year we had a very good showing of young fly fishers. I'm sure they enjoyed the experience as much as we did having them and hope their numbers will increase in the future. Bring a young friend to the next club meeting.

Pat Damico, MCI 

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE TYING BENCH

By C.W. “Don” Coleman

Instant Weed Guards: You have been fishing open water with your favorite fly, but now you start hanging up on weeds, grass, or oyster bars. Rather than changing the fly to a bendback fly or a fly with an attached weed guard, simply add an Instant Weed Guard to the fly you are already using while it is still tied to your leader. Here is how to prepare Instant Weed Guards.

Make a 5 turn Uni-Knot Loop in the end of some 20 pound monofilament (Not hard Mason). Tighten the knot until you can just pull on the standing part and adjust the size of the loop. Store several of these loops in a small plastic bag for use on the water. When you need a weed guard, simply take one of the pre-tied Uni-Knot Loops and slip it over the fly and tighten around the head of the fly. Use pliers to tighten the knot under the shank with the two “legs” of the knot projecting down to form a double weed guard. You may need to pull and tug the legs into position. Clip the legs to the length required. When you no longer need a weed guard, simply clip it off and discard—in your pocket please.

2014 Big Gun Photo's



Dick Miekka, score keeper



Getting ready



Lunch Break



Nick and Cas
Individual Champions,
Nick: Big Gun Champ



Colby, Nick & Bryon
Team Champions



We presented Dave Olsen with
a belated long cast trophy
for throwing 138' 6" in 2010.



Rick Fender with a 35" snook from the Everglades



Above center
Rick Happle and
Steve Parker,
salmon in Alaska

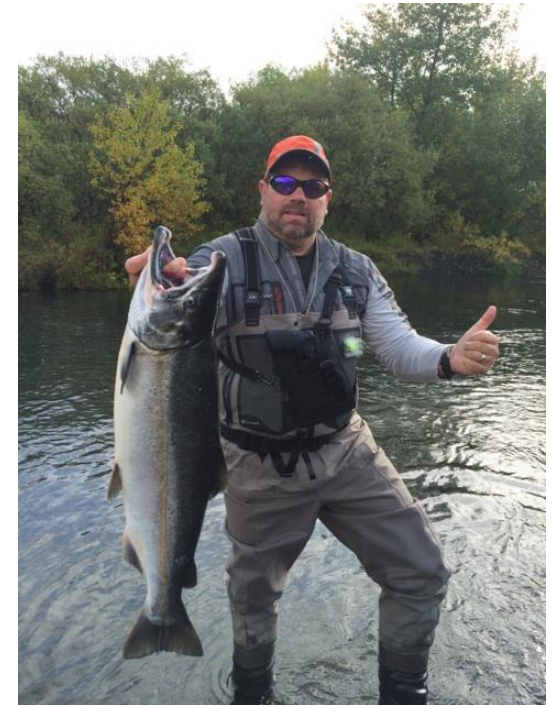


Top right Jeff with
a Holy Mackerel;



Nick Colantonio with impromptu lantern made from a pocket flashlight and plastic bottle

Bottom right Capt
Steve Parker with
Silver Salmon,
Kodiak Island, AK



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Capt Pat Demico provide this report from his Captain’s Corner: Take advantage of area rivers that are really picking up with snook activity. Falling water temperature is causing snook and baby tarpon to head upriver to their winter haunts. Many fish that have been around river mouths, bridges and on beaches are migrating upriver and making feeding stops. Structure is the key as any diversion from a smooth bank often holds baitfish. Points, sand holes, channels, fallen trees and small mangrove islands must all be explored. Don't spend a lot of time in one spot. Cast accurately with baitfish patterns the size and color of what you see in the water. A cast that lands 3 feet from structure will not produce as well as one that is within inches or under fish holding obstacles. Watch your temperature gauge. Warmer water of only a couple degrees can be a hot spot. Fish will often be in groups, so when one or two are caught, continue fishing the area thoroughly. Keeping the boat parallel to shore with an electric motor, two experienced fly casters can work an area using different setups. For example, one with a floating line with a smaller fly and the other with a sink tip and a larger one. Most experienced river anglers prefer an outgoing tide, but often an incoming is better. //Pat

Capt Bryon Chamberlin notes good reports of jacks, spinner sharks and a few cobia at the warm water flow at the power plant on the East side of the bay.

Capt Frank Rhodes notes the East Shore of Tampa Bay around the Kitchen or Cockroach Bay will produce good action on low winter tides as fish are concentrated in holes. Try Mags Hole (found on your chart) in Cockroach for very good trout action.

//Walt (waltdurkin@aol.com) 

Member Benefits

TBFFC is famous for its value and focus on the sharing of information, experience, and craftsmanship with its members. As a TBFFC member you will enjoy many benefits free or at nominal cost.

- Monthly Meetings with informative speakers
- Fishing Trips Sponsored by Members and the Club
- Group Clinics and Workshops
- Fly Tying Lessons
- One-On-One Fly Casting Lessons
- Shirts and Hats with club logo
- 80-page Beginner's Basic Skills Instruction Manual
- Annual Banquet

Fly Fishing Guides

- Capt. Nick Angelo (813) 230-8473
- Capt. Pat Damico (727) 360-6466
- Capt. Bryon Chamberlin (813) 361-8801
- Capt. Rick Grassett (941) 923-7799
- Capt. John Hand (239) 842-7778
- Capt. Frank Rhodes (863) 967-4258
- Capt. Greg Peterson (423) 432-1973
- Capt. Russ Shirley (727) 343-1957
- Capt. Keiland Smith (863) 944-7475

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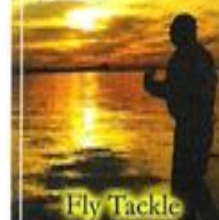
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Email address: _____

Type of Membership: _____

Please Check: One Year _____ Five Year _____

Please list names you wish to include in family membership

Annual Dues: \$25.00 Individual Membership

\$35.00 Family Membership

\$95.00 Corporate Single Membership

(includes one membership and Ad Space)

\$120.00 Corporate Double Membership

(includes two memberships or family membership and

Ad Space in Newsletter)

Five-year dues: \$100.00 Individual Membership

\$140.00 Family Membership

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