



## The Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

[www.tbffc.org](http://www.tbffc.org)

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 5, 2008, 6:00 p.m.**

**Location: Compton Park Recreation Center, Tampa Palms (See below for Directions)**

### Invited Speaker and Featured Fly Tyer **Ted Hagaman**



Ted Hagaman is a long-time member of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club, and one of its most accomplished fishermen. He has fly-fished worldwide in search of the most wanted and the most exotic species. A recent trip to New Zealand set a high water mark (pardon the pun) in his fishing career, and he wants to share some of the excitement of this trip with his fellow fishermen. Come watch and listen to Ted as he describes his epic battles with giant brown and rainbow trout. It will make an

excellent counterpoint to last month's Alaskan adventure story. Come see what you have been missing!

In addition to his world travels, Ted is an inventive fly tier. It turns out that he is the originator of the "mystery fly" that was so successful at catching largemouth bass during this summer's outing at John Millns' Camp. The mystery will be revealed, step by step, as Ted shows us how to tie this gurgler/popper masterpiece. Another unique benefit of your membership in our club!



**Directions to Our Meetings: From I-75**---Take Bruce B. Downs exit from I-75; go west 2 miles to traffic light, turn left onto 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 2008 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Walt Durkin was acting club president for October, but I am writing this on his behalf, because he has gone to Afghanistan to help protect us from our enemies.

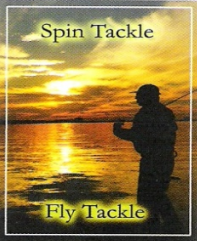
The waters have cooled, and fishing has improved. Be sure to get out soon to do a bit of shallow water boat- or wade-fishing

Thanks to **Walt Durkin** and **Kelly Sobczak** for an entertaining description of adventures, misadventures and success during their recent rafting and fly fishing trip down a remote Alaskan River.

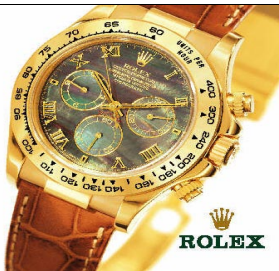
Thanks also to **Jeff Janecek** for showing us how to tie a productive variation of the classic foam spider fly (instructions on page 7, below), and to **Ron Cavalier**, who added more details to his September fly tying demonstrations.

Now is the time to get out your fly rods to sharpen your casting accuracy and distance in preparation for our **Big Gun Shootout** on Sunday, November 9. This is the one outing that we hold on a Sunday instead of Saturday. We do this to allow those who work at fly shops on Saturday the opportunity to compete for trophies and glory in this enjoyable skills contest. We are asking all members to consider doing a bit of judging during the big gun, thus giving every member an opportunity to compete. Sign up for the shootout at the November meeting.

Tight Lines.  
Dick Miekka 



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<u>In This Issue:</u>	<u>Page</u>
Monthly Meeting . . . . .	1
President's Message. . . . .	2
TBFFC calendar of events.....	3
Tips for TBFFC, No. 5.....	4
Project Healing Waters Update.....	4
Member Photos.....	5
Fishing the Chassahowitzka River.....	6
Fly of the Month . . . . .	7
Fishing Report and Forecast.....	7
Learning the Hi-Tye Sequence.....	8
Membership Application, Guides, Casting Coaches, etc.	9

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The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, Location TBD.

**NOT GETTING THE NEWSLETTER?** Please call Dick Miekka, Editor, at 727-866-8682 or e-mail to [dmiekka@cs.com](mailto:dmiekka@cs.com)



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## TBFFC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 2008 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the meeting dates for the rest of 2008: November 5, and December 3. **Please watch this space for any changes.**

#### BIG GUN SHOOTOUT SET FOR NOVEMBER 9

**When:** Sunday, November 9, 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Picnic Island Park, (follow signs near the southern end of Westshore) We will be at the first parking area beyond the boat dock turnoffs.

**What:** This is an annual event in which our club hosts surrounding clubs in a friendly competition of fly-casting skills. There are five casting accuracy tests, including the infamous Hanson cup, and one distance casting test. The few contestants who manage a 100 ft. cast during the regular competition are invited to compete in the final event, a shootout for the top distance prize. Trophies are awarded for individual and team (of 3) performances and a great lunch

**Judging:** Please plan to do a bit of judging (which is fun), so that everyone can participate in the event. In the past, some judges were unable to compete, because nobody was available to share the judging duties.

#### PLAY HOOKY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**When:** :Friday, December 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Where:** Cockroach Bay (tentative location)

After holding this event for several years at the fish hatchery, we sought variety, so expect to move the location a couple of miles north to Cockroach Bay. This has become a favorite outing for many of our members. Take a day off, leave the holiday stress behind and join us for a day of semi-relaxed fishing for sea trout, redfish, and whatever else is in those fine waters. Lunch will be served, along with good fellowship and tall tails. Sign up at the December club meeting

#### ADDITIONAL TBFFC EVENTS

1. **Outing with the Mangrove Club.** Held each fall. Mangrove Club is host this year. No schedule as yet.
2. **Don Coleman memorial outing** at Ft. DeSoto Park, hosted by the Suncoast Fly Fishers, December 20.
3. **Our Banquet was moved to March 14, 2009.** More details later.

#### AN INVITATION FROM FRANK SARGEANT

I'd like to pass along an invite to all Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club members to attend the "Frank Sargeant Semi-Retirement Roast and CCA Fundraiser", Nov. 9 from 6 to 10 at Skipper's Smokehouse, 910 Skipper Road (just off North Nebraska) in Tampa. Captain Mel Berman of 970 WFLA will be MC, Captain Bill Miller and Glenn Pla of Catch 47 TV will be on hand and we'll have live music, raffles and a good time to raise a few bucks for the CCA.

Suggested donation is \$10. Phone at the restaurant is (813) 971-0666. Come on down! Best, FS

PS: Also, if you would, please post my new contact info for members who would like to send me fishing info for the Trib or Florida Sportsman:

**NEW CONTACT INFO FOR FRANK SARGEANT;**  
**ADDRESS** 395 County Road 4240, Arley, AL 35541  
**PHONE** 205 387 0803  
**EMAIL** franksargeant@bellsouth.net

#### BILL JACKSON'S EVENTS OF INTEREST

Call (727) 576-4169 for all items listed below.

Fly casting clinics each Saturday at 10 AM

Fly Tying Clinics; 6:30 PM every Monday for beginners and every Wednesday for advanced tiers.

#### SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

[www.suncoastflyfishers.com](http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com)

Regular Meetings: 6:30pm on the Third Thursday of each month, **except December**, at Walter Fuller Recreation Center, 7883 26<sup>th</sup> Ave. N., St. Pete.

#### MANGROVE COAST FLY FISHERS

[www.mangrovecoastflyfishers.com](http://www.mangrovecoastflyfishers.com)

NOTE: Newer Location for MCFF Club meetings - **Twin Lakes Park**. The entrance to Twin Lakes Park in Sarasota is located on Clark Road, just 1/2 mile east of I-75, on the south (right) side of the road. Contact website above for details and directions.



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## **TIPS FOR TBFFC – No. 5**

### **Basics Needed to Enjoy Fly Fishing**

Newcomers to the sport of fly fishing will find it quite easy to acquire the equipment, skill and knowledge to thoroughly enjoy the sport. Fortunately, many manufacturers offer good quality fly rods and reels at very reasonable prices. Add a fly line along with some backing and the outfit is nearly complete. Leaders can be made from bulk spools of monofilament, the recipes for which are abundant on the internet or in any good “how to” fly fishing book. Flies are best purchased from a local fly shop where knowledgeable proprietors will be very helpful in selecting patterns best for local conditions.

Being all dressed up, what’s needed is a place to go fishing. The most robust sources for spots to fish are to be found among fly fishing club members, who will be most generous in sharing spots with you. Participating in club outings is another way to learn about new fishing spots and gain some help and advice from more experienced members who will help with improving casting and fishing techniques.

The vests, boots, nippers, forceps, special hats and glasses, and myriad of gadgets which fly anglers are wont to collect can come later.

Dan Lagace  
Member, Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club



## **Project Healing Waters Update for October, 2008**

Last meeting was a small turnout by veterans. They were very pleased by our support and looked forward to the next session. Many thanks to Rick and Nanette O’Hara for donating a rotary vice for PHW. As always, thanks to the faithful TBFFC volunteers who come each session

//Jeff Janecek



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The man of unending adventures: Frank "Indiana Jones" Rhodes had lots of action as he snaked his way through the bays and bayous of Xcalak, Mexico.



The area between Cockroach Bay and the Little Manatee River was very productive for Floyd Holder in mid October. One Thursday a burnt orange seducer caught nine snook to 22 inches around these islands at the beginning of an incoming tide. The prize of the day was a fat mullet, mouth-hooked by a fly tied by Floyd. The fly was so ugly it is not hard to imagine the mullet thinking it was of a clump of vegetation.



## Fishing The Chassahowitzka River

reprinted from capmel.com



I really enjoy getting away from the crowds and exploring new territory. My fellow Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club fishing buddy Nick Angelo and I were going to meet the next day to fish a local river that empties into Tampa Bay. Nick's phone call to finalize plans began with, "Pat, have you ever fished the Chassahowitzka?" Nick, "I can't even pronounce it," was my response. His enthusiastic assurance that I would like it was all I needed to say yes. We arranged to meet on the north end of Tampa where we would ride together in his vehicle towing his skinny running Hell's Bay flats skiff.

The predawn traffic thinned out as we made our way north into the country leaving suburbia in the rear view mirror. As the sun began to rise, we arrived at the Chassahowitzka River campground boat launch, paid a fee, and slid the boat into the clearest, most pristine looking water I have seen in Florida. I felt like I was transplanted into bygone era as we idled down river toward the bay. Freshwater bass and bluegills scooted around the boat as we enjoyed the sounds of an awaking wilderness. Beautiful cypress trees, cabbage palms, saw grass, sweet gum trees and colorful red maples provided a canopy that widened as we continued our journey. A mature osprey flew ahead of the boat as a guide seeming to take us to his favorite fishing hole. Great blue herons, cormorants and anhingas loudly voiced their objections to our presence as we disturbed their awakening and stretching routine. The widening river revealed some fish camps and houses that must have been there forever. Nick grinned as he asked, "What do you think?" I was too busy digging for my camera to get some pictures of this pristine wilderness to give a very long answer other than, Beautiful!"

The tide was just beginning to slowly come in and the clear, very shallow water made me glad that we were not using my larger Maverick boat. Nick's previous trips there were enough to keep us safe for the rest of the day. This is not a place for anything but the shallowest running watercraft. Approaching the salt, clusters of oysters, underwater obstacles, hard bottom, grass, thinly exposed flats, and patches of muddy water made navigation a nightmare. Many grass covered islands were visible as the bay unfolded before us. An overcast day with occasional short interruptions of sunshine did not improve visibility. When running the outboard, we mostly idled with the motor tilted. A bow mounted electric was also put into service several times. Poling is always the most effective means of making a stealthy shallow approach, so we took turns working some familiar areas where he had successfully fished on other trips.

We always check the weather before leaving, paying particular attention to the wind. Very little protection is afforded here, so a calm day would be ideal. I fished with a seven weight and Nick a nine weight, using weight forward floating lines and nine foot leaders with a twenty pound tippet. Our target species was redfish. On Nick's last trip, a number of large jacks interrupted their redfish search. I kept a nine weight with a popper handy in case we had the same thing happen. We both love large jacks on the surface.

Fishing was slow until the tide began to go out at a very fast flow rate. A large school of mullet was spread over one side of a nearby island, so we headed there. I was on the pole and Nick, an excellent caster, began to ply the mullet with one of Leigh West's green and gold Clouser style patterns. A redfish was hooked on the second cast. After releasing it, a few additional casts were rewarded with another hookup. An anchor was quietly slid over the side to hold our position. Keeping a small plastic covered mushroom anchor in the boat with about ten feet of line on it to immediately deploy off the stern when school type fish are discovered is a great idea. Now I could also fish! My tippet sported a small gold and copper colored Mylar Kwan style crab pattern. Since we had located the fish, this choice proved to be a good one. A very slow retrieve on the bottom was needed for success. We worked the mullet school, occasionally lifting the anchor and poling another twenty feet or so to work a different section of water. When we left this location, we had ten reds that we released, as well as a few that managed to get off or avoid our strip sets. These fish were all very silver in color attesting to the excellent water quality. We caught several other fish later as we worked our way back toward the channel markers leading to the launch. A stop at one of the many fresh water springs had bluegills and large mouth bass chasing and hitting our smaller offerings. Where else could you combine such a variety of shallow water fishing with a breathtaking view?

We had spent almost an entire day there and had only touched a small part of what the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge has to offer. Federal, state and local agencies jointly manage over 35,000 acres which include many islands, estuaries, salt marshes, and coastal swamps. A Google search will give you a wealth of information for you to review in preparation for a very enjoyable day on the water. When the monotonous routine of urban fishing starts to gnaw at your interest level, head to the Chassahowitzka to cleanse your soul! 🌅

Capt. Pat Damico  
Member, TBFFC

## FLY OF THE MONTH

### Chartreuse Foam Spider Fly

As tied by Jeff Janecek



Jeff used this fly to win the October 2008 Carl Hanson Outing for TBFFC (43 pan fish caught)

#### Materials

**Hook:** Mustad 3366, size 10

**Thread:** Chartreuse, 6/0 or 8/0

**Tail:** Marabou or flash

**Underbody:** Small Ice Chenille, chartreuse

**Body and head:** Chartreuse closed cell foam, 2mm thick.

**Rubber legs:** Mini chartreuse or yellow with black bars

**Cement:** Fletching glue

#### Tying Instructions

1. Mount hook in vice, apply thread base, Tye on a little flash or marabou 3/8 past the hook bend. Tye size small ice chenille and wrap from the bend up to 1/8" behind the hook eye.
2. After cutting out selected oval foam, place foam body over hook shank and extending slightly beyond the hook eye. Hold firmly with two left hand fingers. Make several firm wraps with thread Just behind hook eye,, building up a foundation for the legs. Thread foundation should be about 1/16<sup>th</sup> wide.
3. Place rubber leg parallel to hook shank, and make several gentle wraps. Too much pressure and the legs will not have a nice "V" pattern. Repeat for the other side. After the last wrap, place one wrap around the hook eye and under the foam.
4. Create a half-hitch finish over the hook eye. This can be done by looping the thread over the tip end of a retractable pen. Swing bobbin over pen and let hang. Place pen tip over hook eye, hold firmly, and with left hand pull bobbin towards hook bend. Repeat four times.
5. Glue thread; at the base of the legs I like to use fletching glue for all foam patterns.

#### Tying notes:

A plastic stencil sheet of circles and ovals was purchased at Michael's craft store. Foam was also available there). Fletching glue was purchased at Arrowhead Archery in Seffner. I like to use chartreuse for the body and chenille. I like to cut the foam with a "tear" shape and glue the end of the foam to the hook with tension tweezers. This fly also makes a nice little popper when retrieved aggressively.

## Fishing Report and Forecast

### "What a great time to go fishing!"

In late September Capt. Byron along with Capt. Russ Shirley and Capt. Nick Angelo found themselves fishing Tampa Bay. Tailing redfish were found at low tide in the afternoon on a full moon. Activity was best on the outgoing and first of the incoming tides. Brown or black redfish toad flies have been the top producers.

Robert Fisher went on a bike ride thru Arkansas this month. He did stop to fish the White River near Mountain Home. He caught over 2 dozen trout to 20" the first day. On the second day he caught the slam, Brown, Rainbow, Brook and Cutthroat. Robert reports that River Ridge Lodge is a great place to start from since they are all fly fishermen. See him for address and phone number.

Jeff Abeles, Leigh West, Tony and Frank went to Mexico for a Tarpon and Snook get away and did very well. According to Frank they caught 40 tarpon and snook, one Iquana and a Boa Constrictor. Way to go Frank!

The Carl Hanson outing was a huge success. Our club was well represented with 15 members and Suncoast had about 25 members. TBFFC went away with the trophy due to Jeff Janicek great day of catching. He caught 43 fish along with Bob Fisher's 35, Chris Dakin's 32 and Bob Gaulin's 28. Thanks goes to the Suncoast Club for the delicious lunch after the outing consisting of BBQ chicken, baked beans, cole slaw and a fish pate. Good job.

With the weather cooperating, November looks good for snook, redfish, trout. Trout season will close south of the pasco-Pinellas county line during November and December, so be careful how you handle them.

Enjoy this beautiful weather and tight lines.

Bob   
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# ***FLY TYING LESSONS***

## **Learning the Hi-Tye Sequence**

**By Ron Cavalier**

**Hook:** Any short shank hook, such as a Mustad 9175, Eagle Claw 254 or Gamakatsu 18411.

**Thread:** Monocord or 140 waxed Flymaster.

**Materials:** White Neer Hair and any wing color, Lead in 020" for weight on hook shank.(This keeps the hook riding down), HT Braid (Pearl) to cover lead wire wrap.

**Flash:** EP Fibers, in Pearl Magic.

**Eyes:** 1/4" 3D domed eye.

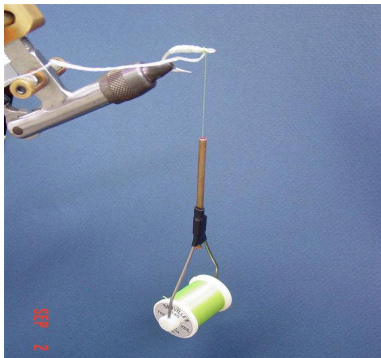
**Start thread behind eye** and wrap to back and then back to starting point. Wrap lead over the rear portion of the hook and tie off with thread.

### **PHOTOGRAPH OF LEAD ON HOOK.**



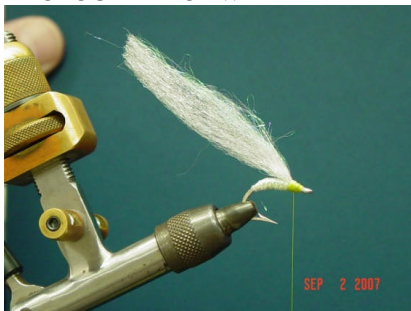
**Tie in HT Braid** and cover lead wraps and tie off, building a ramp for the belly to begin its hi-tye.

### **PHOTOGRAPH OF HT BRAID AND RAMP**



**Cut a 3" piece of white Neer Hair** and tie over ramp. Take a swatch of EP Fiber Pearl Magic and tie in over white belly directly on top of the hook.

### **PHOTOGRAPH OF WHITE BELLY AND PEARL MAGIC**



**Cut a 3" piece** of whatever color you're using for the top wing and tie on top between the Pearl Magic and the belly color, build a nose and whip finish.

### **PHOTOGRAPH OF FLY WITH ALL TIE IN'S IN PLACE**



**Crimp the nose of the fly** to give a flat area to place the eyes. (Vertical crimp only). Place eyes on each side, partially on the nose and both top wing and belly, and Super Glue in place.

### **PHOTOGRAPH OF EYES IN PLACE**



**When Super Glue is dry**, use Loon Hard Head or Sally Hanson's Hard as Nails to coat the eyes and head of the fly. Use Softex behind the eyes if you want the fly to stand more upright.

### **PHOTOGRAPH OF FINISHED FLY TRIMMED**



**TIP:** If fly doesn't stand upright, make one or two thread wraps between belly and hook.

**TIP:** The color combinations are almost endless. Each fly tier should experiment blending various colors to see which colors will look good on any flies they are building.

**TIP:** Cut a small amount of any color and then another color and brush them together. When you're satisfied with what you have achieved, tie in.

**TIP:** As with any fly, you have to adjust and tweak them to insure they'll ride properly. At times this may require adding a wrap or two of .020 lead wire.



## 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, plus enriching experiences.

- Monthly Meetings with Famous Speakers
- Fly Fishing Outings
- Fishing Trips Sponsored by Members and the Club
- Group Clinics and Workshops
- Fly Tying Lessons
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- Capt. Russ Shirley (727) 343-1957
- Capt. Paul Hawkins (727) 526-2438
- Capt. Wade Osborne (813) 286-3474
- Capt. Frank Rhodes (863) 967-4258
- Capt. Keiland Smith (863) 944-7475

## Fly Casting Coaches

Novice or advanced caster, one of the following coaches can assist you with your casting. Contact one convenient to your location to arrange a casting session.

### South Tampa

Steve Parker.....813- 287-5583

### Brandon

Neil Sperling.....813-655-5627

### North Tampa

Jeff Abeles .....813-961-0097

Robert Fischer.....813-962-0185

Dan Lagace.....813-929-6605

Bill Murdoch ..... 813-971-4764

Leigh West. .... 813-971-8697

### Saint Petersburg

Capt. Pat Damico.....727-360-6466

### Polk County

Capt. Frank Rhodes.....863-967-4258

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- SWANN'S FLY FISHING SHOP, Jim Swann, 13650 South 98 Bypass, Dade City, FL 33525, (352) 567-6029

### 2008 member application Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please Check: One Year \_\_\_\_\_ Five Year \_\_\_\_\_

Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rel: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rel: \_\_\_\_\_

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