



## **The Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club**

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

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 02, 2011, 5:30 p.m.**

### **Special Guest Speakers**

**W. Durkin, W. Sobczak, S. Parker, F. Rhodes**

Members of this group will talk about their trip to Aniak, Alaska last fall where they fished Cripple Creek and the Salmon and Aniak rivers over eight adventure-filled days. They flew in 1600 pounds of gear and 13 intrepid souls for a week of fishing and bushwhacking in the Alaskan wilds. Amid rain, mosquitoes, high water, log jams and bears they caught fish, had a great time and all got out alive. Come and hear their tales along with photographic evidence of the lengths people will go to just to catch a few fish on the fly.

### **Featured Fly Tier**

**Steve Parker, Jeff Janecek ---- and You**

Steve will demonstrate how to tie one of the flies that were most effective in catching the salmon and other species landed during the epic Alaskan float trip that is the subject of our featured talk.

Jeff will be tying a basic #6 Clouser minnow. He will demonstrate different materials and multiple colors available and show tying tricks to make a simple but very effective fly for shad, just in time for our shad outing. The fly is also productive for bass, specks, pan fish, catfish, pickerel, hybrid stripers and tilapia (Nile perch).

**IT'S TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES—USE FORM ON WEBSITE OR PG 9**

**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

## FEBRUARY 2011 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello TBFFC members,

Welcome to February. Already the year is flying by way too fast.

The Club wants to thank our January speaker **Jim Jeansonne** for the very informative talk on the Gulf Oil Spill, and what part NOAA had in the Big Cleanup.


We also would like to thank **Robert Fischer** and All of the Tiers that participated in the Fly Tying and "Bull session".

We saw many new faces at the meeting, That is a good thing to see. Bring in a friend or tell someone about our club and have them check us out, We're here to help anyone interested in learning more about fly fishing.

We have the Shad Outing coming up on the weekend of February 11-13, so sign up at our meeting. Also, please remember the Club Banquet on Saturday, March 26. It will be at the Columbia in Ybor City. If you have a gently used item that you would like to donate to the club for the auction please bring it to the meeting with you.

Hope you have some fishing stories to share with us.

See you at the meeting,

Tight Lines, Neil 

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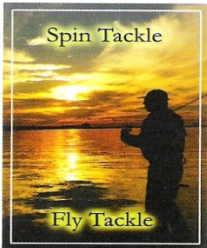
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### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 9 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)



### The Fly Guy

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## TBFFC EVENTS

### 2010 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the meeting dates for 2011; February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7  
**Please watch this space for any changes.**

### ANNUAL SHAD OUTING WITH CAMPING

**When:** Weekend of February 11-13 (arrival after 3p.m. on the 11th)

**Where:** St John River for fishing, with camping on private property.

This is an annual multi-day event, attended by members of several fishing clubs. Almost everyone who has attended in the past has become addicted! You may attend on just one day if you choose. There will be overnight camping, which is always fun, with great fellowship, "fishmanship", and food. Sign up at the February meeting or call Leigh West at 813-971-8697.

### 2011 BANQUET

Be sure to come to our banquet at the Columbia Restaurant in Ybor city on **Saturday, March 26**. Some of the highlights of our banquet will include:

- **A great meal of your choice for which the Restaurant is justly famous.**
- **Cash bar.**
- **A silent auction where you can pick up a new fly rod, reel, or line, or a fishing trip, artwork, or one of many other items, and not only for fisherpersons, any of which can be yours for peanuts.**
- **A door prize drawn from a hat (or bucket) for a lucky attendee.**
- **Our annual awards presentations.**

Remember that this is the main fund raising event for the club each year, so the proceeds will come back to you in the form of outings, pizza at our meetings, etc.

**SIGN UP USING THE FORM ON PAGE 6**

### DINNER AND A SHOW FOR TBFFC

A new set of fly fishing movies will be shown at the Tampa Pitcher Show theatre on Thursday April 7 at

6:30 or 7:00pm. Discounted price tickets are available at Tampa Bay on the Fly, 4203 El Prado, Tampa before the event. Tickets at the door, if available, will be \$3 more (probably \$15).

Members can meet for dinner before the movie at the Tilted Kilt Pub at 14457 N. Dale Mabry. The restaurant is 1/8th mile south of Ehrlich Rd. on the east side of the street. It is also directly across the street from the Pitcher Show so it will be easy to make the movie on time if we meet at 5pm or so.

### 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 MCFE 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. 32

### Casting Tip for TBFFC: 15

How can I safely cast when the wind is blowing toward my casting side?

This situation is a frequent problem and one that causes most accidents with getting “hooked.” The simple answer is to keep the fly and fly line away from the caster.

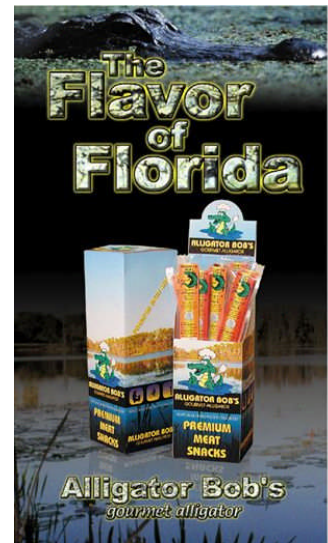
- In a mild wind, casting horizontally and close to the water’s surface will keep the fly at least a rod length away.
- You can make your usual vertical cast only tilt your rod so that the rod tip travels over your opposite shoulder.
- Tilt your body away from the wind and “Brush your hair,” with your rod hand keeping the rod tip on the downwind side.
- Cast on the downwind side by having your casting hand cross your chest. This allows a convenient stop for the rod on your backcast but will limit distance.
- Turn around and cast behind you and deliver your backcast to the target turning your wrist away from you as you deliver the cast.
- By far the best method is to learn to cast with the opposite hand.

Pat Damico, MCI 🌅

### Facts to Ponder While Eating Fish

1. Eating fish can ease arthritis and help prevent dementia.
2. Mercury is a bigger problem for kids than for people 50+. The 2004 federal advisory warns certain groups -- including pregnant women and young children -- against eating fish with high mercury levels, because mercury can damage the brain and nervous system in unborn babies and young children. But older people, with their fully developed systems, can tolerate higher amounts
3. Most fish contain traces of mercury (primarily from industrial pollution), but levels vary. Large fish that are higher in the food chain -- such as sharks, swordfish, king mackerel, and tilefish -- accumulate more contaminants because they consume lots of smaller fish. Your best bet: eat smaller fish and shellfish, such as salmon, cod, crabs, pollock, and flounder.
4. Fatty fish are good for you. Fatty fish such as salmon and herring are high in omega-3 fatty acids, which can lower blood pressure, enhance immune function, and improve arthritis symptoms. Most fish (and shellfish) are also low in saturated fat. Just avoid frying them and adding rich sauces or lots of butter.
5. If your jeans are feeling snug, fish can help you get trim: they are high-protein and low-calorie.
6. Aim to eat fish at least twice each week, per the American Heart Association, particularly fatty fish. “At least two servings a week will protect against the risk of dying from heart disease and the risk of dying from sudden cardiac death.” Says Donald Hensrud, M.D., a nutrition specialist with the Mayo Clinic.

Excerpted from an article in AARP magazine, contributed by Robert Fischer 🌅



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Member Photos, February 2011



# Kabul Fly Fishing Forum II

Tuesday 21 Sept , 6:30 PM



Research reveals there are trout fishing opportunities in Afghanistan. Of course Afghanistan has never been known for being a fly fisherman's mecca (at least as far as I know) but nothing ventured nothing gained. It turns out that there is excellent trout fishing in the Khinjan River and in the upper reaches of the Andarab River which passes by the city of Khinjan in the Andarab Valley of Khinjan district. This section of Afghanistan is in the northern section of the country's highly mountainous region. Trout, both brown trout and rainbow trout, are found. Also I understand subspecies of brown trout swims in streams north of the Hindu Kush. This is called locally *mahi-e-khaldar*, which means spotted fish. I understand some rainbow trout have been introduced by either the Bulgarians or Russians into the Salang river.

Club Member **Tony Smith** forwarded the above notification to inform all TBFFC members of the (military) trip of a lifetime to an almost unspoiled fishing location. Although Forum II has passed, Forum III will be available at some time in the future. Sign up at the club meeting or at your local recruiting office.

## TBFFC Annual Banquet and Auction And Membership Renewal

**Date and time:** Saturday, March 26, 2011 at the Columbia Restaurant, Ybor City

**Menu:** A selection from the Columbia Restaurant's famous dishes.

**Program:** 6:00-7:30 PM Silent Auction, Hors D'oeuvres and cash bar;  
7:30 PM Dinner, Live Auction and Entertainment  
9:00 Closing Remarks, Pick up Silent Auction Items

**Grand Prize Drawing – You May Have the Lucky Number**

### A. Order Form for Annual Banquet

Where: Columbia Restaurant,

When: March 26, 2011 @ 6:00 PM (Dinner 7:30 PM)

(Please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Evenings)

Number of Guests (including yourself) \_\_\_\_\_ (\$35.00 per person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

**Tickets to be picked up at the event**

### B. Pay your 2011 Club Dues (if not already paid)

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

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Hm. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Please Check: One Year  Five Year  Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Single \$25 for one year, \$100 for 5 years; Family \$35 for one year, \$140 for 5 years; Corporate \$95 per year (includes ad in newsletter)*

Please list names (in addition to your own) that you wish to include in family membership

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

C. Total Paid From A and B. above = \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Please write your Check to "Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club" and pay at the meeting or mail to:

Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club, c/o Rick Valeri, Treasurer, 1404 Oxfordshire Court, Brandon, FL 33510

**Note: If you are a Guide or a Vendor donating a trip or merchandise to the Club, do not send any money at this time. Instead, fill in the number of tickets requested and check here ( ). Thank You**

## The 2 # Outing

*By Robert Fischer*

Most of my fishing buddies who don't fly fish think that fly fishermen are nuts. "Why spend so much money on equipment, so much time learning to cast? Why put up with the aggravation when the line tangles up on everything in the boat and the fish break off? Or why fight the wind and hit yourself in the back of the head with the hook? And you catch fewer fish than using bait or Gulp?" they reason.

I usually just shrug my shoulders and admit I'm nuts. So to dispel any other doubts about my lack of sanity let me tell you about the 2# test fly fishing outing I had with Leigh West. I knew the trout and ladyfish were thick in Double Branch Creek so I invited the best fly fisherman I know, Leigh West, to join me there.

Fishing with 2# test is difficult. First you have to build leaders like tarpon leaders, only with 16# butt, 2# class tippet, and 16# bite tippet. The tough part is tying the bimini twists in the 2# test line that looks like spider webs. Good lighting, a black background, an hour of calming meditation and a tall gin and tonic help prepare you for this activity. Keep the leaders on a foam spool because if they tangle, they are trash.

The second difficulty is casting. A gentle casting stoke with light flies in no wind is required or you can pop off the fly with a bad cast.

The third difficulty is hook setting and fighting. A soft rod is needed to protect the tippet. A strip strike or a strike from a fish going directly away from you breaks the tippet. A snag, another fish hitting the line or too much drag breaks the tippet.

The fourth difficulty is that I'm using a 10 foot - 3 wt - rod that is the most difficult rod I've ever thrown. It's almost impossible not to overpower it and throw tailing loops. But it does protect light tippets very well during the fight.

So Leigh and I go to North Tampa Bay Park and launch the canoe into Double Branch. I'm rigged and ready. We park the canoe on a sand bar and wade to the fish. The ladyfish and trout are everywhere, but they are deep and of course the wind starts blowing; 10 mph, 20 mph, gusts to 30 mph. Leigh starts catching fish non-stop. He's a wizard with a fly rod and can throw upwind in a hurricane, plus I think he can smell where the fish are.

I'm floundering away with that impossible rod, that spiderweb leader, that weighted fly, and that #%\$\*@ wind. I manage to setup on a bar and get a 30' cast downwind to a good spot. Count to ten to let the clouser sink, strip, strip, bite, lift the rod, set the hook and an 18" ladyfish takes to the air. The long rod bends into a graceful 90 degree arc and all is good in the world. After a delicate give and take 4 minute fight, the fish is brought to hand and released. A big smile grows on my face and Leigh nods his approval. So I straighten out the fly, retie the leader where it was chaffed, cast and catch another, and another and another. Mission accomplished.

The fly breaks off, a new fly is tied on. The leader breaks, a new leader and new fly are tied on. This is repeated for hours. After 12 lost flies and 4 broken leaders I throw in the towel and tie on a tapered leader ending in a 12# tippet. I feel like I could land Godzilla with this so I relax and join Leigh in the trout and ladyfish slaughter. (Not really a slaughter, we didn't kill a single fish.)

As icing on the cake, we were watched by a couple of guys throwing shrimp under a cork. They caught a few small ladyfish and left. That was cool, we out fished them. I think Leigh caught close to 100 trout and ladyfish and I caught about 60. Leigh didn't try the 2# outfit I brought for him because he's not nuts. With tired arms, chewed up leaders and flies, and a mixture of joy and accomplishment we got into the canoe and paddled back against the 20+ mph wind. Yeah, I'm nuts for sure. Who would want to have a day like that?

## FLY OF THE MONTH

### Robert Fischer Spoon Fly

*As Tied by Robert Fischer*



#### Materials

**Hook:** #1 or #2 long shank

**Weight:** medium brass cone head or brass bar bell eyes.

**Thread:** red

**Tail:** red Krystal Flash

**Body:** bright gold textured metallic gift ribbon

**Adhesives:** hot glue, 5 min epoxy or rod varnish

#### Tying instructions

1. Flatten the barb and bend a long shank #1 or #2 hook into a slight bend. A straight hook will have little action; a very curved hook will have a lot of action and a very slow retrieve. A hook with a lot of bend will also be harder to cast.
2. Slip a medium brass cone over the hook and secure it with a small drop of hot glue. Brass bar bell eyes can also be used but they may hang up a little more.
3. With red thread tie a small bundle of 1" long red crystal flash at the beginning of the bend of the hook. The crystal flash should curve down slightly. Tie off.
4. Cut a piece of gold ribbon to match the distance from the back of the cone head to the downward curve of the hook bend. Cut this piece into a willow leaf shape. Lay the piece down on the table.
5. Hold the hook by the point and place a small bead of hot glue along the top of the hook from the cone head to the end of the thread wraps.
6. Push the glue onto the gold ribbon and press the ribbon into shape with your hand trying to make it symmetrical. The hot glue holds the ribbon in place for the next step.
7. Using a small disposable brush, coat the entire ribbon on both sides with 5 minute epoxy and place it on a slowly turning drying wheel. After it dries check it for any missed spots and re-epoxy if needed. Loose threads can be cut off also.

It is more efficient to make about 6 at a time with 5 min epoxy. I recommend that this fly be fished fairly quickly as a searching pattern. I usually have to wear a finger protector to keep the line from cutting into my finger. First Aid foam tape works well for this. A weed guard could also be added but I haven't found this necessary.

## Fishing Report and Forecast

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

**John and Joan Willis** went wade fishing on a windy day at Palma Sola Bay. They were able to find to find shelter and caught two trout 16 and 18 inches and a ladyfish on a chartreuse combo/wooly bugger that John tied.

**Capt. John Hand** reported catching Bonnet Head Sharks on a fly his wife **Leslie** concocted. You need to find out from him how to make this fly if you want to fly fish for sharks. Lots of fun.

**Robert Fischer** and **Lance Pocock** fished Double Branch and caught 80 to 90 trout, reds, ladyfish and flounder. Robert went back with **Leigh West** and did the same thing with the exception that Robert used a 3 wt fly rod and caught 20 trout (see article on page 7). Leigh used more reasonable tackle and caught 40 to 50 trout, ladyfish and several small reds.

**Rick Grasset** sent me reports of trout, reds and ladyfish being caught by clients on his Grasset's Flat Minnow in Sarasota Bay and Gasparilla Sound. In Venice's ICW snook were being caught on Grasset Snook Minnow.

Tight Lines,  
Bob Gaulin  
[Rjgaulin@yahoo.com](mailto:Rjgaulin@yahoo.com)  
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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.

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

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**2011 member application**  
**Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club**

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

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Hm. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check: One Year Five Year

Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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