



**Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 6:00 p.m.**

### **Invited Speaker**

**Leigh West**

Leigh is a long time member, former president and board member of TBFFC and a member of the Sunshine State Fly Casting Club. West has more than 20 years of fly-fishing experience on Tampa and Sarasota Bay area waters. He enjoys sharing his knowledge of fly-fishing, casting, rigging, and tying with his friends and fellow fly fishers.

Leigh will show a slide presentation of wade fishing strategies. Anyone who has wade fished with Leigh has marveled at his uncanny ability to spot fish in the water, even when the lighting is wrong or the water is too disturbed or murky to glimpse below the surface. He probably can't teach us how to see in the dark, but Leigh will offer lots of insights on how to improve your catching rate when it's just you against the fish!

### **Featured Fly Tier**

**Layne Smith**

Smitty is one of the Bay area's premier fly tiers. He started tying when he was 6 years old and got serious about it in the early 60's. That's when he got involved in a tying clinic run by a crotchety old cuss by the name of Carl Hanson. From that time until Carl's passing they collaborated on many variations of pan fish flies as well as a number of salt water patterns. Since then he has created many successful new patterns including the world's best bluegill fly, the Crystal Beetle (an advanced twist on the foam spider). His friends began calling him "Spiderman" because of the incredible success of that one. Tonight he will be tying the Summer's Tide fly, great for tarpon, redfish, snook or anything around mangroves. Don't miss this great chance to see a master at work.

**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

## MARCH 2013 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's almost spring up north, but closer to summer here in Florida. The water is warming rapidly, so get out while it is in that magic temperature range, between 70 and 80 F.


Thanks to the team of **Bruner, Chamberlin, Durkin, Rhodes, and West** for their scintillating recounting of the fly fishing trip they took to Mexico in 2012. Most of those in the audience were ready to sign up for the next trip at the end of the evening!

Thanks also to **Logan Valeri** who showed us how to tie a Crystal Schminnow fly in several variations. Instructions are given on page 8.

I'd like to put in a word of appreciation to those who sent in photos and information about the shad outing and other recent fishing events.

Please remember to sign up for our banquet as we re-visit Hunter's Green in March. We will have a virtual bonanza of silent auction items as well as prizes and a great meal.

Dick 



**Capt. Pat Damico**

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	<b>Alligator Bob Young</b>	<b>813-986-3008</b>

The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 3:00 P.M. on Saturday March 2 at Walt Durkin's Home.

**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 EVENTS

### 2012-2013 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the remaining meeting dates for 2013; March 6, April 3, May 1, June 6, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4, **Please watch this space for any changes.**

### 2013 FLY FISHING FILM TOUR

The **Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3)** will be coming to The **Tampa Pitcher Show Theater** on **March 7**, showing a collection of short films on fly-fishing from around the world. Tickets are \$15 at the door but frequently sell out early. They are also available at a discounted price from Tampa Bay on the Fly. TBFFC members may gather for a bite to eat before the show at a nearby watering hole. Get more information at the meeting.

### TBFFC ANNUAL BANQUET

Our banquet plans have now been finalized and are somewhat different from what was listed in this space last month.

**When:** Saturday, March 9, 2013

**Time:** 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm

**New Location:** Hunter's Green Country Club, (located off Bruce B. Downs, about 1.5 miles northeast of I-75, so not far from our regular meeting place.)

As usual, we will have an **excellent meal**, **party favors** for all, a **cash bar**, lots of **silent auction items** including **guided trips** and plenty of **good stuff** for fishing and for your home, a **grand prize drawing** and **great camaraderie**.

When you attend, you also support the club and help us pay for all of those free outings, tutorials, and monthly pizzas! **Invite a spouse, friend, or prospective member** along too.

See mail-in sheet on page 5, below, or sign up at the TBFFC meeting.

### TBFFC IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

### CAPTAIN MEL CLASSIC IS ON MARCH 23

This is an all-amateur, all-lure catch/photo/release charity event with the target species of trout and redfish; a bonus species "buy-in" (flounder) with the grand prize in each division based on the longest inches of each angler's longest redfish and trout. The event is to honor the late Captain Mel Berman and benefits The Humane Society of Hillsborough County. There are five divisions: Open, No Motor, Fly, Junior and Ladies. There are prizes and cash payouts for the top finishers. Entry fees are \$40 for all divisions except Junior (which is \$30). The Captain's Meeting is on March 22 at the Fat Cat Tavern in Clearwater where anglers will receive their tournament materials. The judging and awards is also at Fat Cat Tavern and anglers must check in before 2:30PM to be eligible to win. For more information, rules and sponsor information visit [www.capmel.com](http://www.capmel.com) and click on "Captain Mel Classic" or call 727-692-6345.

### FUTURE EVENT

- TBFFC Casting Clinic, **Time to be determined.**

### 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)

Contact website above for details and directions.

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## TIPS FOR TBFFC – No. 56

### Casting Tip for TBFFC: 39

#### DON'T BE A SLACKER

I want to revisit one of the Casting Essentials. You cannot make a good cast without eliminating SLACK. This time of year when our waters are very clear and low, and wind seems ever-present, long casts are often needed. Starting your backcast with the rod tip on the water and a straight line layout of the fly line to the fly is a necessity. Letting line slip through your fingers during the casting stroke will produce slack, destroying the cast. When the rod stops on both the forward and back cast is the time when line can be slipped under tension to increase the amount of line you can carry. In this way false casting will give you more line in the air. Final delivery will occur when the rod stops on the forward stroke and line is released with your line hand. Let the line slip through your line hand fingers and pinch the line when over the target to control accuracy.

Pat Damico, MCI 

### How to Catch a Bonefish

Let Go...of doing the same thing and expecting different results (one definition of insanity).

Practice...applying lessons learned.

Remember...don't move your feet (fish feel it)

Strip strike instead of rod tip strike

Cast to, not over or short of the school

Use the right color fly

Don't use cross-eyed flies

Be ready--but not "buck fever" eager

Forget excuses + ask for feedback

Cast low into the wind

Don't move rod when stripping line

Point your rod at the line when stripping

When the guide says fish at "nine o'clock" don't go digital on him

Laugh and joke a lot -- it's all for fun

Let bonefish run before setting hook (but not in the mangroves)

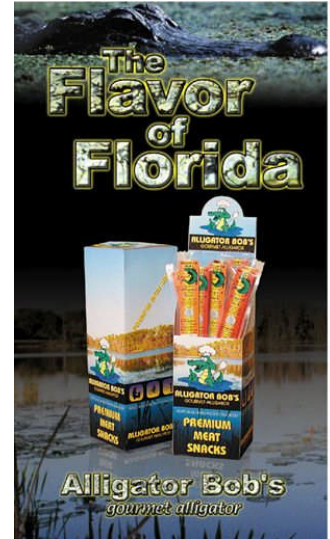
Listen to guide (as in "Listen to me, Gringo")

Let the guide borrow your raincoat and share your lunch


When guide says "fish 30 feet at twelve o'clock" don't say "where?"

Check your knots ...It's easier in casting clinic than in the wind on a rocking boat

Ken Hofmeister, Suncoast Flyfishers



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# TBFFC Annual Banquet and Auction And Membership Renewal

**Date and time:** Saturday, March 9, 2013 at Hunter's Green CC, Tampa

6:00-7:00 PM Silent Auction and cash bar.

7:00 PM Buffet Dinner

Salad Bar, Chicken Picatta, Marinated London Broil, Chef Choice Vegetable, Roasted Red Potatoes  
Club Rolls w. Butter, Chef Choice Dessert, Coffee & Tea Service

8:30 -9:00 Announcements, Special Events

9:00 Closing Remarks, Pick up Silent Auction Items

## A. Order Form for Annual Banquet

Where: Hunter's Green CC,

When: March 9, 2013 @6:00 PM

**Price: \$40.00 per individual, \$75.00 per couple**

(Please print)

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

Number of Guests (including yourself) \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40.00 if single, \$75.00 per couple) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total\*

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

**\*Note: If you are a guide or vendor donating a trip or merchandise, do not send money now, but check here ( )**

**THANK YOU**

## B. Pay your 2013 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(s) 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**

## Member Photos, March 2013



Congratulations to TBFFC members **Bryon Chamberlin**, **Nick Angelo**, **Dave Chouinard** and **Greg Peterson** for their smokin' performances in the G Loomis Poling & Casting Championship at the Salty Fly Tournament! Bryon and Nick completed the course in a blazing time of just under 3 minutes to win, while Dave Chouinard and **Colby Hane** finished just slightly more than a second behind. Third place went to Greg and partner **Dave Dant**.



Attached are photos of a recent trip **Nanette** and **Rick O'Hara** took to Louisiana to fish with **Capt. Danny Ayo**. Nanette is shown with an 18-pound redfish, while Rick took top honors with a 28-pound black drum. Rick described the battle with the black drum as similar to "being hooked to the back of a tractor." Nanette 2/18/13



## Member Photos, Shad Outing



- 1) My biggest Shad of the day caught on the St Johns River next to Bryon and Greg's Secret Spot
- 2) Frank Rhodes first Shad, (he never smiles for the camera; he might as well wear a buff, ha!)
- 3) The Econ confluence and fly anglers.
- 4) Great Sunset by the campfire

I also caught a couple large mouth bass. We had a great time and hung around the campfire at night to keep the chill off. 🌅

*Denise Bruner*



## FLY OF THE MONTH

Norm Zeigler's Crystal Schminnow

As Tied by Logan Valeri



### Materials

**Hook:** Mustad 34007 Size #4 or Similar  
**Thread:** White Flat Waxed Nylon or 3/0 White Thread  
**Eyes:** Large Black Monofilament Eyes  
**Body:** White or Pearl Crystal Chenille  
**Tail:** White Marabou or White Arctic Fox Tail  
**Flash:** Pearl Flashabou

### Tying Instructions

1. Put the hook in the vise hook point down and attach the thread near the bend of the hook shank.
2. You want the tail to be about the length of the hook shank or just a bit longer. Tie in the marabou or arctic fox tail towards the bend of the hook and trim the excess.
3. Tie in two pieces of flash on each side of the tail, wrapping your thread back so that the flash and the tail are both back at the bend of the shank. Cut the flash so that the flash and the tail are even.
4. Strip a very short length of the crystal chenille so that only the bare threads that hold the material in are showing.
5. Wrap the threads of the chenille down on the shank with your tying thread right in front of the tail.
6. Bring your tying thread towards the eye of the hook. Attach the monofilament eyes onto the shank with figure eight wraps behind the eye of the hook. Leave your thread in between the monofilament eyes and the hook eye.
7. Now wrap the crystal chenille forward, making nice spaced turns which lead to a smooth and even body. Wrap the chenille to just in front of the eyes and then tie it off and trim the excess.
8. Build up a little thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement.

Logan Valeri TBFFC member 🇺🇸

## Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

MARCH 2013

**Capt John Hand** reported he was lucky to put **Capt Phil Thompson** on a few reds on the South Shore. Reds are in a fall pattern and they saw a lot of Sheepshead. A tip: when seeing Sheepshead, look carefully-- Redfish may be in the same area.

During the month of February, **Capt. Rick Grasset** reports trout to 22 inches, a flounder and a couple of reds on his Grasset minnow fly. Other species including reds, snook Spanish mackerel and blues caught using spinning gear.

And now for an announcement from **Nick Colantonio**: Waging tails, but no tight lines. My Labrador retriever bitch had a litter of nine “Labradoodles.” Dona’ and her incredible nine are thriving. Seven of the nine have been caught (have potential homes, that is) Congratulations Uncle Nick!!!

Another but sad announcement: On my way to the river, going down Morris Bridge Road, I was rear ended. My outboard and trailer were totaled! My Gheenoe might be repairable. Sooooo Sad! 🇺🇸

Tight lines  
 Bob Gaulin  
[Waspfly32@gmail.com](mailto:Waspfly32@gmail.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, plus enriching experiences.

- Monthly Meetings with Famous Speakers
- Fly Fishing Outings
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- Group Clinics and Workshops
- Fly Tying Lessons
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### 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.

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- South Tampa**  
Steve Parker.....813-287-5583
- Brandon**  
Neil Sperling.....813-655-5627
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**2013 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*

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

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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

Please make check payable to: Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club  
 C/o Rick Valeri, 1404 Oxfordshire Ct. Brandon, FL 33510

**Invitation to a Casting Clinic Sponsored by Suncoast Fly Fishers, Saturday, March 16, 2013**  
**Location: Maximo Park (off I-275 exit 16) at Shelter 13.**

**Dayle Mazzarella, MCI**, is going to conduct our next casting clinic. Dayle's many years of teaching and coaching have refined his approach to teaching fly casting that is very unique. He recently gave a program to certified casting instructors and has published several articles in publications that were received with exceptional enthusiasm. This program will be for all levels of casting skill, from first timer to expert. We are fortunate to have someone of Dayle's skills in our Suncoast Fly Fishers Club. Bring a hat and glasses and if you show up at 8:31 you will be too late. As in the past, FFF members will attend free of charge, others will pay the equivalent of their FFF dues and join at the clinic. If you miss the sign up sheet at our meeting, and/or need equipment please call or email me: pat4jaws@hotmail.com or 727-504-8649.

**8am - 8:30** Check-ins - we will have some equipment for those need it. A 6-wt. rod with a 7-8ft leader is recommended. We will have leader material, yarn, name tags, etc. We will familiarize participants with the format, layout, schedule, etc.

**8:30 (Prompt)** Basic casting principles and execution. This portion is designed to help beginners learn to make basic casts and understand the principles involved. In addition, more experienced casters will learn how to teach friends and family. A handout of the principles and drills will be provided. Even experienced casters will find this portion helpful in reviewing the basics which in turn, will help prepare for the more advanced casts later in the day.

DRILLS: Pick-Up and Lay-Down, Grass Drill, Feeding Line, Roll Cast, Roll Cast to Pick Up and Feed.

**9:45** BREAK

**10:00** Split into Groups (45 minutes, then rotate)

- Basic casting
- Quick Casting
- Spey Casting
- Basic Double-Haul
- Advanced Distance Casting
- Accuracy and Mending

**11:30** LUNCH

**12:30** Repeat 10am Groups (That way everyone can potentially go to 4 different groups.)

**2:00** BREAK

**2:15** Fun Casting Drills - 5 Stations

- \* One-legged casting - (Keep the boat from rocking.)
- \* Accuracy - (Under mangrove, docks, and Trout fishing)
- \* Distance - (Get that Redfish!)
- \* Quickcasting - (Get that Bonefish!) OR

INTRODUCTION TO FFF CASTING INSTRUCTOR EXAM

**3:30** Finished  
 Pat Damico, MCI

**Here is a reminder that many members have not yet paid their 2013 Dues. If in doubt, just pay using the form below. If you have already paid, we will give credit for your 2014 membership. Neat, huh?**

**Membership 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

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

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

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

Annual Dues: \$25.00 Individual Membership  
 \$35.00 Family Membership  
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 Please make check payable to:  
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