



**Next meeting 7 June
0600 PM to 0900 PM**

**Speaker: Dr. Liz Wallace
Florida Tarpon**

Dr. Liz Wallace is a marine biologist specializing in sportfish genetics. This information can play a critical role in developing effective conservation and management strategies for recreational fisheries. Currently, Liz is working for the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg (which is the research arm of FWC). She has been studying bonefishes and their relatives for over 10 years. In her spare time, Liz enjoys the many water related activities the Tampa Bay area has to offer including diving, sailing, paddle boarding, and fly fishing.

Liz will discuss the results from her recently completed study on tarpon exploring population connectivity between geographic locations. Are Florida tarpon populations self-supporting? Or are Florida's tarpon shared with more distant locations? The answers to these questions will guide management and conservation by identifying the scale we need to focus these efforts- local and/ or regional.

Tyer:

Club member **Jeff Janacek** will tie his famous freshwater bugs for us. Come out and watch and I'm sure Jeff will offer you one to fish on Lake Calm. Jeff is our premier fresh water guy and often wins our local competitions with the most fish.

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.

June President's message

Welcome to June and warmer weather and water. Check out our fishing report for the latest spots and techniques.

Thanks to Capt Bryon Chamberlin for his presentation on fly fishing for tarpon in our local waters. Bryon provided many useful tips on how to pursue this great fish on the fly. Or, for guaranteed success, hire one of our super guides to take you out. Thanks also to Bryon for tying some of his go-to tarpon flies.

I have been writing the casting tips for the newsletter based on my experience and absent other input. I encourage club members to email me tips on what has worked for them as they try to improve their casting. Effective casting makes fly fishing more fun and productive.

// Walt Durkin 

EVENTS

- Lake Calm Outing - 17 June

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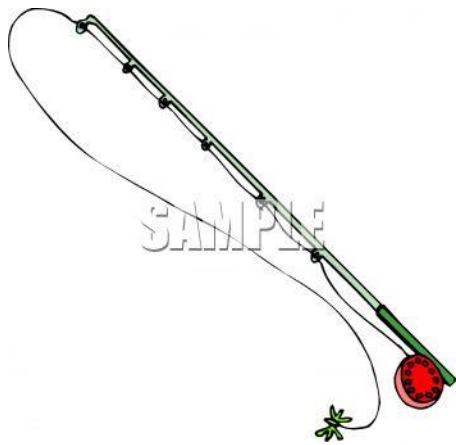
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Annual Club Banquet 7 May. Thanks to all who attended our annual banquet at the Hunter's Green Country Club in New Tampa. The food and venue were great and we had a good time. We will start planning earlier next year with the hope of increasing attendance from about 40 to 60. We had many items in our silent raffle, most of which went at bottom prices. None-the-less, the club earned a little over \$1000 profit. Our guide trips all sold well and special thanks to those guides who supported us. Thanks to **Enver at On-the-Fly** in South Tampa and to **Joy at Tampa Fishing Outfitters** for consigned items. Please support our local fishing vendors. Hunter's Green also donated two rounds of golf for four players. **Patty and Bruce Anderson** gave us an informative talk on their trip to Antarctica complete with history and pictures. Please give us feedback on how we can improve our banquet.

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES


Club Flags Ready to Deploy. Patty Anderson has completed our club flag project and we have six flags ready to travel the world on your next fly fishing adventure. Take pictures showing our flag, your location and a great catch on the fly. Request a flag at any meeting to borrow for your next trip.

Picnic Island Report: About 10 club members fished Picnic Island on a Saturday morning after our meeting. Weather was windy out of the NW, so we stayed on the south and east sides of the island. We had a low, incoming tide that came in pretty good. Several snook and trout were caught under those tough conditions. Coffee and donuts in the morning were followed by Subway sandwiches for lunch. Picnic Island is centrally located and should fish well all summer either wading or by kayak. Expect to find mainly snook, but trout and reds will be around. Fish moving tides early and late with minnow or baitfish patterns on a 25 lb. tippet.




Lake Calm Outing on 17 June. Please note we moved the date from 10 to 17 June. Please join us for our annual fresh water outing in Odessa off Gunn Highway. This is a crystal clear lake that holds good numbers of bass and pan fish. Bring a 4 to 8 weight rod and some pan-fish bugs and gurglers to fish on light 6-10 pound leaders. You can sign up at the next meeting and we will have directions. Bring a canoe or kayak if you have one. We will provide lunch and drinks. I'll open the gate at 0600 am for an early start for the best fishing.

Bahamas Fishing License. I read somewhere the Bahamas has done away with their new requirement for a fishing license for the flats. Please let me know if anyone knows more or can confirm this.



Tips for TBFFC

Another way to improve your fly casting is to practice shooting line. You may be surprised by how much line you can shoot with good timing and technique. Try carrying a modest amount of fly line, 35 feet, for example. Let it shoot without a double haul a few times and see how far it goes out. Next, practice a good double haul by bringing your line hand back to the reel on your back-cast and hauling on the forward cast. Work on the timing and speed of your haul and you will see the line shooting out further and further. While fishing this will allow you to cast 70 feet, retrieve 35 feet and cast 70 feet again with minimal false casting. Additionally, shooting line out is fun and satisfying. Mark a spot on your line 35 feet from the tip to aid in carrying and shooting line. //Walt 

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE TYING BENCH

By C.W. "Don" Coleman

Maxims

"A fly does not have to look like bait; it just has to act like bait." -- Bob Clouser

"It's a mistake to think of an attractor as anything other than a food form." -- Gary La Fontaine

The art of fly tying is in your choice of materials and tying methods so that your fly will appear alive, whether at rest or being retrieved.

Flies that do not have that essential spark of life are usually effective only with a strip retrieve, which is seldom productive when fish are feeding on the "drift".

Ninety percent of imitation is presentation.

Flies don't catch fish, fly fishers catch fish.

Smitty's Tarpon White Tiger

Materials

Hook:	Owner Aki 1/0
Thread :	hot orange waxed nylon
Tail:	cream craft fur
Under-wing:	hot orange ostrich herl
Over-wing:	cream craft fur
Legs:	two hot orange sillilegs
Flash:	rootbeer Krystal Flash
Collar:	hot orange Polar Dub
Head:	tapered thread
Marker:	orange Sharpie



Tying Sequence:

1. Put the hook in the vise and attach thread at the hook point and wrap back to the bend.
2. Cut a healthy pinch of craft fur, preen out all the long and short pieces, tie in at the hook point and wrap back to the barb.
3. Tie in the ostrich herl at the hook point to match the length of the fur.
4. Repeat Step 2 at the same tie in point. Do 6 post wraps (wraps around the fur and herl where they attach to the hook) to keep the tail from fouling.



Club members **Steve Parker** and **Frank Rhodes** fishing in NC and TN near the Blue Ridge Parkway



British club member Andy is in the UK for the summer (lucky him) and avoiding our hot and humid weather. He caught an 8 pound carp on one of Smitty's dog biscuit flies. We have carp in our local lakes and they might be worth a try. Andy also found pesky geese, which tried to eat his flies on the back cast! That would be a good start for some kind of barnyard slam.

Capt Rick Grasset's clients with good tarpon action.



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain's Corner: Minimum wind and cloudless skies elevate a fly fisher's chance for a good fishing day on our west coast. The wind makes casting more difficult, unless you're experienced. Clouds interfere with sight-casting opportunities because you can't see the fish in the shallows where we do most of our west coast fishing. Dirty water and rough boating conditions add to the issue. We're fortunate to have many rivers that empty into Tampa Bay as well as the gulf. A boat or paddle craft is necessary to allow mobility. Rivers get narrower as you head upstream and offer wind protection from tree-covered banks. Most fish we're interested in are structure-oriented. Casting will be to fallen trees, undercut banks, points of land, sandbars, mouths of small creeks and tree cover close to the water surface. Any interruption in normal shorelines should be investigated with accurate casts. Outgoing tides are generally preferred, but I've seen many exceptions. Moving water is always important to success. Equipment is similar to fishing the flats. An 8-weight rod rigged with a floating weight-forward line is the first choice rigged with a popper or shallow-running baitfish imitation that duplicates available forage in size. Baby tarpon, snook and redfish are the top targets.

Capt Rick Grasset reports tarpon action will pick up as sea conditions improve. Snook season is closed on the west coast of Florida until Sep 1st, so please handle them gently and release them quickly. This is a good time frame to sight fish for snook in the surf when conditions are good. Fishing lighted docks and bridges in the ICW for snook with flies and DOA Lures continues to be a good option. You should also find larger trout in shallow water along with reds when conditions are good.

Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports spring is over and we have transitioned to summer. The beginning of summer is a good time to get in on some action around Tampa Bay. I have taken fly fishing clients to ladyfish holes where they have had fun with that species. One time the ladyfish weren't there, which worked out good because we went around the corner and found big trout. We used Olive and white clousers and they worked very well. Next up, I have fly clients who want to catch Pompano. The Pompano action has really improved in the last week.

Walt Durkin fished Boca Brande and Charlotte Harbor for five days in mid-May with **Ted Hagaman**. They found good action on top water plugs amid windy conditions. We tried for redfish on the fly and found some, but no luck getting them to eat. We did have one nice snook try to eat a Puglici minnow, but missed. A few nice trout spiced up the plug action also. Charlotte Harbor has a lot of great shallow-water back country to explore a little less than two hours from Tampa.

Our new traveling club flags are on the move! **Bruce and Patty Anderson** took one to Colorado and **Walt and Frank** took one to the Amazon. Lower right with our trout gear in **Oconee St Park, S. Carolina**.



2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 13-15 Jan Shad Outing St John's River
- 23 Feb – 3 Mar Brazil Peacock Bass trip
- 25 Mar – 1 Apr Two Boys Inn, Andros Island, Bahamas
- 1 Apr Suncoast Fly Club banquet
- 8 Apr Cypress Park outing
- 13 April CCA Banquet
- 7 May Club Banquet, Hunter's Green
- 17 June Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- 7-8 Oct Florida Sportsman Show
- TBD FFF Enclave
- 21 – 28 Oct Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip
- 21 Oct Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River
- Nov Big Gun, Picnic Island
- 6 Dec Members Year End Party
- 8 Dec Play Hooky at the Hatchery
- 16 Dec Don Coleman Outing, Ft Desoto

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) 504-8649
- Capt. Bryon Chamberlin (813) 361-8801
- Capt. Rick Grassett (941) 923-7799
- Capt. John Hand (239) 842-7778
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Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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