Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

Enjoy The Beautiful Art Of Fly Fishing

Next meeting 2 August 17
0600 PM to 0900 PM

Captain Mike Lockleer

Please join us for a talk by local guide Mike Lockleer. Captain Mike is from Homosassa, FL and now lives in Wesley Chapel. He works with Flint Creek Outfitters of Dade City, FL. and is an experienced fly guide and angler. He will share tips and stories based on his years fishing our local water from Tampa to Homosassa.

Tyer: Dale Garica

We will feature Dale as our tyer of the month. He is a long time club member and experienced fly fisherman and avid tyer. Come and see what Dale has up his sleeve this month.

Directions to Our Meetings (6:00pm): 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.

August President's message

Welcome to August and the dog days of summer. Check out our fishing report for the latest spots and techniques. Try beach snook fishing in the morning and go for a swim if it gets too hot!

Thanks to **Dr. John and Laura Millns** for our skin screening at last month's meeting. Stay covered up this summer and drink plenty of water. Also thanks to our members who tied super flies for us as always. Thanks to **Greg Smothers** for traveling from Sarasota to join us. Check out his videos on YouTube for tips on tieing; and, his EP Deceiver is featured on page five.

We have no outing scheduled for this summer. Please let me know if you have an idea for a good place to go.
// Walt Durkin

EVENTS

- Oct 7-8: Florida Sportsman Expo
- Nov 5: Big Gun at Picnic Island

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

FFI Florida Council Meeting: Saturday, August 19 from 1:00 until 3:00 PM at the Plantation in Crystal River, FL; The Den - Social Room on the first floor. Address: 9301 W Fort Island Trail, Crystal River, FL 34429

Florida Sportsman Expo: We will share a table and the casting pond with the **Suncoast Fly Fishing Club** again this year. Show dates are Oct 7 and 8 at the Tampa Fair Grounds. We are seeking volunteers to work a few hours on both days to sit at our table, answer questions and demonstrate fly casting. We will have a sign up sheet at our September meeting so mark your calendars. You can also get in free with us to enjoy the show as a bonus. See their website for details: http://www.floridasportsman.com/2015/02/01/fall-shows/.

Mexico trip 21-28 Oct: We may have an opening for this trip. Please let me or **Frank Rhodes** know if you are interested.

Fishing Recipes. I would like to put a recipe in the newsletter each month. Many club members gave me recipes in hard copy, which I have. I will add them to the newsletter, but I would like pictures to go along with the recipe. Take a look at my example from last month and then get to work in the kitchen with your camera and email me pictures and instructions. Or, if I already have your recipe, just make it and send me the photos.

Chattooga River Outing . We will travel to S. Carolina 12 -16 Nov for our annual trout fishing trip. We stay in log cabins at the Oconee State Park. This is a wild and scenic river with good numbers of rainbow, brown and brook trout. Please let us know if you would like attend.

For Sale: TFO NXT 8/9 weight complete 4-piece outfit with reel, line, case - $150
Grey's Fly rod 8 weight, 4-piece - $100
Both brand new, see or email Walt.

Tips for TBFFC

The Importance of Accuracy. When asking casting students to identify what they want to learn from the experience, I rarely get the answer, "I want to improve accuracy!" In either fresh or saltwater, this is extremely important. Accuracy requires consistency, a quality needed in any sport. If you can perform the essentials needed for any good cast, a focus on hitting a target becomes easier. If every cast you make is flawed, accuracy is impossible. Sight casting requires accuracy, just ask any fly fishing guide about their efforts to get a client to a redfish or tarpon and watching the client repeatedly not make the proper cast. Successful stream fishing for rising trout requires a careful placement of your fly in the proper spot. Practicing on the grass at targets under all conditions will pay big dividends. Your first cast is the one that counts. Those of you that have participated in our Big Gun Shootout are all too familiar with the frustration of the Hanson Cup. **Capt. Pat Damico**

Random Thoughts from the Tying Bench
By C.W. “Don” Coleman

A THOUGHT – Whatever the time or the season. Whatever the race to be run. There will always be an island, an island in the sun.

MAXIMS:
Watch your floating fly line for indications of current lines.
Follow current lines to find fish--usually over structure.
“To over analyze is to paralyze.” – Capt. Sarah Gardner
Go through life with Class.
Most of the troubles in life are caused by what goes into your mouth or what goes out of your mouth.

CRAIG SMOTHERS EP DECEIVER

Materials

Hook - VMC 7106
Body - EP 3D White and 3D Chartreuse
Gills - Red Silky fibers or calf tail
Flash - Opal EP Blaze
Thread - Gel spun poly 12/0

Tying Sequence:

Tie thread back to just past hook point.
Cut about a 4 inch piece of the white EP and tie it at the midpoint. Fold it back and tie it in over the first half.
Tie in a small amount of flash over the white.
Turn the hook over and tie a short length of the red directly under the white as a gill, projecting just past the bend of the hook.
Tie in another bundle of white underneath, using the same half and half technique.
Tie in another small bunch of the flash.
Turn the hook upright and advance the thread to the middle of the hook.
Tie in a bundle of the chartreuse on top of the hook, using the half and half technique.
Turn the hook over and tie in a bundle of white directly under the chartreuse.
Turn the hook over, advance the thread toward the eye of the hook and repeat the last two steps.
Add eyes and a weed guard.

Capt. Bryon went to the keys for mini lobster season with wife Erin and pet Snickers. They stayed at John Pennekamp State Park in their RV. They snorkeled and Bryon did a little solo fishing for bonefish when the tides were right. He was fortunate to catch 4 tailers. They bully netted lobster with a friend the first night of mini lobster season out of the Snake Creek area and got their limit in a little over 2 hours. P.S. Looks like Byron had plenty of help from Snickers.

British club member Andy is in the UK for the summer (lucky him) and avoiding our hot and humid weather. His first Koi carp, about 13 lb from Manor Farm pictured above.

Canada member Gary Butler spends five months per year on Treasure Island. Pictured with an Atlantic Salmon he recently caught on the Gander River in Newfoundland Labrador on an 8 weight rod and a size 10 Blue Charm. Cold water fun and Gary took this salmon home for dinner.

Capt Rick Grassett's clients with good tarpon fishing in July. See our fishing report for details on this action in the backcountry of Pine Island Sound.

Patty Anderson and Denise Bruner fishing out west in Colorado and Wyoming.

Pompano en Papillote

See our fishing report on the good pompano bite and go catch one!

1 whole pompano, dressed, about 1 pound; 3 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and fresh black pepper; ½ pound crab meat; 1 tablespoon chopped garlic
2 tablespoons chopped parsley; ½ cup fresh lemon juice; ¼ cup shopped shallots
½ pound cubed butter; Sprigs of parsley; 1 piece of parchment

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Season fish with 1 tablespoon olive oil, salt and pepper. In a sauté pan, heat the remaining olive oil and sauté the fish 2 minutes on each side. Remove the fish from the pan. In a mixing bowl, toss the crab meat with the garlic and season with salt and pepper. Spread the crab meat mixture over the fish. Fold the parchment in half length wise and place fish on one half. Fold the remaining half over the fish and fold the edges tightly forming the shape of the fish. Place on a baking sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes. In a sauce pan combine parsley, lemon juice and shallots. Bring liquid to a simmer and reduce by half, about 3 minutes. Whisk in the cold butter and season with salt and pepper. To assemble, cut the top of the bag to expose the fish. Spoon the sauce over the fish and garnish with the parsley.

Fishing Report and Forecast
"What a great time to go fishing!"

Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain's Corner: Stable weather conditions are usually necessary for consistent fishing success. That certainly has not been the case lately. During the summer, higher tides have redfish, trout and snook in areas that are high and dry during other times of the year. A good example is flooded mangroves, docks and other structure creating a place for fish to find food and feel secure, well-protected from overhead predators and bright sun. A bait fisherman will cast a live offering close to structure, and the unsuspecting baitfish will swim under the structure into the waiting mouth of a finny predator. With a fly rod, a cast must be made within inches of flooded mangroves and structure or back into narrow openings where fish can see or hear it. Use larger flies that cause a disturbance, often drawing fish to the edge of cover. A good choice are poppers in white, yellow or black that float and have a flat surface in front. A slight pull on a tight line creates a "pop," often bringing your intended quarry out of hiding to attack its dinner, resulting in violent, exciting surface action. Cast with the rod held vertically for pinpoint accuracy but move the rod horizontally to cast close to the water to get under structure. If floating grass is a problem, use flies with weed guards. Fly fisherman **Pat Damico** charters lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at **captpat.com** or (727) 504-8649.

Capt Rick Grassett reports Tarpon fishing should be good next week as many fish are post spawn and should be aggressive. This is a good time frame to sight fish for snook in the surf. However, snook season remains closed on the west coast of Florida until Sep 1st, so please handle them gently and release them quickly. Fishing lighted docks and bridges in the ICW for snook with flies and DOA Lures also continues to be a good option.

Rick had a real treat earlier in the week when Rusty Chinnis, from Longboat Key and I had an opportunity to fish the backcountry of Pine Island Sound for juvenile tarpon with our friend, Capt. Joe Harley of Snooktown Charters out of Matlacha, FL (www.snooktown.com or 239-443-7412). We had great action jumping numerous tarpon in the 15 to 30-pound class and leadering a couple of them on 8-wt fly tackle. Great fun and a change of pace from beach tarpon fishing. These fish usually jump higher and more often than their larger brethren! I also fished with Rusty back in Sarasota on Wednesday.

Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports the best pompano fishing I have ever seen. We have been catching 30 or more per day. For the fly guys, the Neil Taylor fly in gold. Keep it short, but make it heavy enough to keep it on the bottom. Hop it the same way you would a jig. The pompano see it, they follow it, they eat it. If you haven't hooked a pompano on a fly rod, you haven't lived.

Walt Durkin suggests fishing in the early morning or evening for cooler water. Tides will probably be better late in the day. Seek moving water on the flat and along the edges of the mangroves. Look for Pompano over sand near the passes.

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 Expo
- TBD — FFF Enclave
- 21 – 28 Oct — Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip
- 21 Oct — Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River
- 5 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
• Capt. Frank Rhodes	(863) 967-4258
• Capt. Greg Peterson	(423) 432-1973

Fly Casting Coaches

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Walt Durkin.....813-476-7128
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- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 www.captpat.com, pat4jaws@hotmail.com
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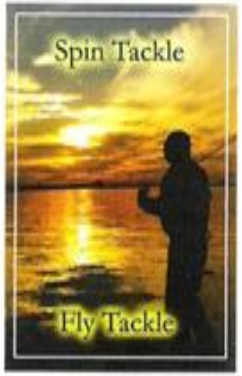

The Fly Guy

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