



**Next meeting 1 November
0600 PM to 0900 PM**

Trout Fishing in Northern Colorado and Wyoming

Please join us as club members Patty Anderson and Denise Bruner talk about their late summer fishing trip in the wild west. Starting in Wyoming, they caught Alpine lake trout and wild brookies on the Big Thompson in Rocky Mountain National Park. Additionally, they found big rainbows and browns on the Grey Reef near Alcova, WY on a float trip. They finished by fishing the Cache la Poudre near Ft Collins, CO and encountered a moose on their drive back to Colorado. This trip celebrated Patty's recent retirement in great fashion.

Tyer: Denise Bruner

Denise will tie the Woolly Bugger, a classic and versatile trout fly. This fly is easy to tie and is a winner. Fish it on a dead drift to imitate a bug or strip it to imitate a minnow. Add a bead or cone head for the deeper water or pools.



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.

November President's message

Welcome to November and the start of our winter fishing. Check out our fishing report for the latest spots and techniques.

Thanks to **Steve Parker and Ted Hagaman** for their great tips on fly fishing techniques and gear. Several members mentioned how much they learned. Ted and Steve are passionate and knowledgeable fly fisherman always willing to share. Ted also tied a great fly for us, Pat's Rubber Legs, which we will use on our trout fishing trip in the fall.

Layne (Smitty) Smith is recovering from bypass surgery and resting at home. Please keep him in your prayers and we will welcome him back to the club soon.

Thirteen club members had a great time in Mexico despite rainy weather for three days. We caught three permit and numerous tarpon and bonefish.

// Walt Durkin



EVENTS

- Oct 7-8: Florida Sportsman Expo
- Oct 21-28: Mexico
- **Nov 5: Big Gun at Picnic Island**
- Dec 8: Play hooky at the hatchery

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin 813-476-7128

Walt.durkin@aol.com

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Treasurer: Rick Valeri 813-681-9143

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Bryon Chamberlin 813-361-8801

Pat Damico 727-504-8649

Robert Fischer 813-962-0185

Bruce Anderson 813-960-8523

Rick O'Hara 813-238-6763

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

Florida Sportsman Expo: Thanks to all the club members who came out and supported our table at the Expo. I thought the crowds were a little sparse and the casting pond hidden, but still good publicity for the club. The Expo manager said he would set us up better next year. We did have a fly fishing stage and club members **Nick Angelo** and **Leigh West** both spoke two days.

Avalon I Yacht trip to Cuba – 27 Jan to 3 Feb.

We have an opening for this trip at the great price of \$3500 (normally \$6k) plus airfare. Look at their website for details:

<https://cubanfishingcenters.com/index.php>.

Let me know by email if you are interested.

Walt.Durkin@aol.com

Tampa Bay Wade Fishing Guide Updated.

Go to our website (tbffc.org) and click on the Article tab and then click on the guide. It has tips on where and how to wade fish Tampa Bay. Email feedback to me at walt.durkin@aol.com.

FFI Florida Council Expo Update. The Fly Fisherman International (FFI) is exclusively dedicated to fly fishing. The FFI and the Florida Council work to promote our sport through conservation and education. Our club is an affiliate member of the Florida Council and I encourage you to consider joining the FFI. Please check out their web site at <http://www.ffi-florida.org/>. Senior membership is \$25 a year. Meanwhile, the date for the next **Expo is 9-10 February 18** at Plantation in Crystal River. That is a Friday/Saturday and the Expo will have exhibits, classes and numerous vendors. It makes a nice day trip or spend the night and attend the banquet. Plantation is a beautiful 50-year-old, 232 acre eco-friendly resort offering comfortable accommodations, a full service spa, and is surrounded by the natural springs of Kings Bay. Special room price for FFI attendees. We will have more info at the next meeting.



The BIG GUN SHOOT-OUT



Sponsored by the **Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club**

Sunday, November 5 at 9:00 a.m.

Picnic Island Park, Tampa (Shelters #611, 614)

Experts and beginners alike are invited to test their fly casting skills at the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club's annual "Big Gun Shoot-Out" casting competition!

Individuals and teams of 3 are welcome!

Plaques will be awarded for highest scoring individual, highest scoring teams, and the "Big Gun," the overall distance casting champion.

Contestants will participate in competition stations that mimic the challenges of fly fishing, such as casting under the mangroves, into a cup of water, or through a hoop suspended a few feet off the ground. Come out and give it a try – you'll be hooked!

The competition will run from 9 am - 0200 pm. There is NO entry fee, and lunch will be provided to all contestants. You may use your own rod for all competition stations except the Big Gun distance contest. Volunteers also are needed to help set up the course and score contestants.

Big Gun Trophies



Fly Casting Clinic, Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017

Location: Egan Field @ 9101 Blind Pass Road in St. Pete Beach, FL 33706.

This session is also open to the public but they must register with St. Pete Beach Community Center in person at 7701 Boca Ciega Drive, St. Pete Beach, FL 33706 or by calling 727-363-9245. It is free for all Fly Fishers International members. Non-FFI members \$35, which includes membership to FFI. St Pete Beach community members are free but they must sign up with the recreation center. We will then contact them to become FFI Members.

Suncoast Fly Fishers will host a Fly Casting Clinic, taking turns with Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club with two Master Casting Instructors (MCI) – Dayle Mazzarella and Pat Damico -- who will be assisted by other well known instructors and casters in the Tampa Bay area, Leigh West and Steve Parker. Additional IFFF Instructors will be available.

Registration is at 8:00 am. The course starts PROMPTLY at 8:30 am and continues until approximately 3 pm. We will have some equipment for those who need it, so pre-registration is very helpful. A 5-wt. to 8- wt. rod with a 7-8 ft. leader is recommended. Bringing your own is recommended so the instructors can check to see if it is balanced. We will have leader material, yarn fly, name tags, etc. We will familiarize participants with the format, layout, schedule, etc.

Schedule: 8 am – Check in, coffee and donuts

8:30 am – 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: Grass Drill, Pick-Up and Lay-Down, False Casting, Feeding Line, Roll Cast, Roll Cast to Pick Up and Feed. Each drill will have an advanced challenge for those pushing their limits.

11:30 am BREAK • 11:45 Split into groups- Introduction to the IFFF Casting Instructor Program - Saltwater Quick Casting, Double-Haul, Advanced Distance Casting, Roll cast, Accuracy and Mending

1:00 LUNCH provided by Suncoast Fly Fishers


1:30 pm, Repeat 11:15am Groups lead by an instructor, you can rotate through different venues for one on one instruction

2:15 BREAK • 2:30 Fun Casting Drills

Please register at meetings, or call Tom Gadacz (706) 726-7899, or Pat Damico (727) 504-8649.

Tips for TBFFC

Capt. Pat Damico. Why Clean Your Line? A clean, slick fly line floats better, shoots with less effort, picks up easier and will last longer because modern line dressings will not remove and often restore the components line companies build into their products to improve performance. I have had clients say they never cleaned their lines when others tell me they do it three times a day. I clean my floating lines in saltwater before each outing. In freshwater I often do it a second time mid-day. When you have time at home, occasionally clean the line with non-detergent warm soapy water and a towel before rinsing with plain water then follow the manufacturers recommendations. In the field, I strip the first 30 feet or so, apply line dressing with a pad, then remove excess with a clean paper towel. You will see a big difference in performance.

Pat Damico, MCI 

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

PASS ON YOUR KNOWLEDGE – I am not ashamed to say that most of what I have learned about fly tying and fly fishing I have earned from others who have gone before. Please help the next guy, and once in a while tip a glass to those fly fishers who have gone to fish from that other shore.

MAXIMS:

- I never lost a little fish.
- “Don, there is more BS in this fly fishing business than anything else.” – A very well known saltwater fly casting and fly fishing instructor.
- “There’s nothing sacred about tradition if it is a perpetuated mistake.” – Vince Marinaro
- The wisdom of any decision depends on its success.

Pat's Rubber Legs by Ted Hagaman

Materials

Hook - Mustad 9672 #8

Body - Variegated chenille, coffee and black or variegated

Legs - Hareline Dubbin Life Flex, black

Lead wire - .015 on #10 or .022 on #8

Tying Sequence

Wrap on 15 turns of lead wire so it starts about 1/8 inch behind the hook eye.

Wrap a thread dam between the eye and the lead.

Wrap thread over the lead, finishing just behind the lead and going back to the hook eye.

Double over a length of leg material so there is about a half inch of loop ahead of the eye and about a half inch past the hook bend.

Tie in a length of chenille at the beginning of the hook bend.

Tie three one inch sections of leg material spaced out over the lead, x-ing them in.

Use a hackle plier to wrap the chenille around the hook up to the eye, wrapping around the legs.

Cut the front loop of leg material in half to make the antenna and cut the back legs to about the same length.



Mexico Costa de Costa Trip
Hog snapper dinner on the last night





Rick watching Julian with tequila shot; Rich Gorden on the hunt; Walt and Alberto with tarpon; Ted, Buddy Kelly, Walt relaxing



Patty Anderson and her daughter Lauren fishing the Cache la Poudre river north of Ft Collins, CO. This was Lauren's first trout on the fly!



Captain Rick Grasset is finding a good variety for his clients this fall; tripletail above right.

Swordfish with Orange Salad

Ingredients

2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice

¼ teaspoon sea salt

Freshly ground pepper

½ cup olive oil

3 oranges (blood) peeled into segments

2 teaspoons pine nuts, roasted

1 teaspoon finely sliced mint

4 fish steaks, ¾ inch thick

5 ounces of baby arugula

Whisk lemon juice, ¼ teaspoon salt and a little pepper in a small bowl. Gradually whisk in ½ cup of oil to make a vinaigrette.

Mix the orange segments, pine nuts and mint with a table spoon of the vinaigrette in another small bowl to make an orange salsa. Set aside.

Season the swordfish with salt and pepper and cook the fish in a little olive oil in a large skillet on medium high heat. Cook fish until done, about 6-8 minutes, turning once. Transfer to a platter.

Toss the arugula with the remaining vinaigrette in a large bowl. Season with salt and pepper and divide the salad on four dinner plates. Top each with a swordfish steak one ¼ of the orange salsa.

Serve immediately; a side of rice goes nicely.



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Capt. Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain’s Corner: Tides, weather, water temperature and wind are all variables that affect where fish will be and their willingness to strike your fly. Drifting the flats is a relaxing as well as productive way to fish. Anchoring in one spot for hours where you caught fish on a previous outing is a prescription for failure. Use flies that will cover large areas of water. Baitfish patterns will be most appropriate. Chartreuse over white is very effective in clear water. Darker patterns such as brown over orange seem to be more appropriate in discolored water. Use two different flies by tying the second fly to the one on your tippet. Use the same strength monofilament as the tippet and attach a 2-foot section to the hook bend. Use the wind and tide to help pick a shallow-water grass flat so minimal boat manipulation is required. If alone, a bow-mounted electric motor run at very slow speed can keep you on course without frightening fish. Poling the boat with a partner is preferred. Visibility, your ability to see fish, is improved on a sunny day. When you can't see fish, cast to where fish will be such as grass edges, especially irregularities, pot holes, clear areas in the grass, or where you see nervous water or scattering baitfish. Long, slow strips after slack is eliminated are key. Strip set the hook when you feel any resistance. Casting far is an advantage, so lawn practice beforehand will fine tune your distance and casting accuracy. Pat’s number is (727) 504-8649.

Capt. Rick Grassett reports with the water temperature still in the low 80's, baitfish are plentiful but widely scattered in the coastal gulf. The first cold fronts of the season, which should be arriving within a few weeks, should school baitfish more tightly making Spanish mackerel and false albacore easier to target with a fly and move more mackerel, albies, cobia and tripletail into our area. Look for action in the coastal gulf to take off in the coming weeks. There should also be good action with trout and more on deep grass flats of Sarasota Bay. Shallow water action for snook, trout and reds is picking up due to cooler water. Fishing lighted docks and bridges in the ICW for snook with flies and DOA Lures should also be a good option. You should still find juvenile tarpon in canals and creeks and adult tarpon in upper Charlotte Harbor and some areas of Sarasota and Tampa Bay.

Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports some of the best fishing he has ever seen this fall if you have to know what you are doing. If you haven't been fishing now is the time to go and everything is good except flounder. Get out and enjoy great fall weather and great fishing.

Walt Durkin suggests fishing the low winter tides in the morning. Print off tide charts for Nov thru Feb and mark the good negative low days (-.5 and lower) on your fishing calendar. Fish your favorite flats on those days to learn the terrain and watch for tailing fish, especially reds. On the low tide, fish will concentrate on the edges waiting on the tide. As the tide comes in look for fish coming on the flat and then tailing or cruising over grass. This is the best time of year to sight fish in clear, cool water. Get out and enjoy the experience.

Our new traveling club flags are on the move! **Walt and Ted, Fernie, B.C.;** **Bruce and Patty Anderson** took one to Colorado; **Walt and Frank** in the Amazon; lower right **Costa de Cocas, Mexico, 2017**



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
- 9-10 Feb 2018 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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South Tampa

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

Walt Durkin.....813-476-7128

North Tampa

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

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

Leigh West813-971-8697

St. Petersburg

Capt. Pat Damico.....727-504-8649

Polk County

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

Corporate Sponsors

These companies sponsored the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. Some are members of the club. We urge you to patronize them.

- 3-WAY CONSTRUCTION, Robert Fischer PO Box 342774, Tampa, 33694, (813) 495-5685.
- ALLIGATOR BOB'S Gourmet Alligator Meat Snacks, (813) 986-3008, WWW.GATORBOB.COM
- BARBED STEEL CHARTERS, Capt. Bryon Chamberlin, (813) 361-8801, captbryon@yahoo.com..
- REDFISH LANDING GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. John Hand www.RedfishLandingGuideService.com, (239) 842-7778
- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 www.captpat.com, pat4jaws@hotmail.com
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2014 Member Application
Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

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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

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
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