



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

Tie-a-thon

Our next meeting will focus on fly tying hosted by Capt Pat Damico. Jeff Janacek will tie a Gurgler and a Twin Tail bug with variations. Leigh West will tie 2 of his very productive patterns to demonstrate different tying methods, a great idea! Smitty will do his "MGM," My Glass Minnow. Pat will do baitfish patterns that combine natural and synthetic hair. Participants should bring their own tying equipment and we will have some club vises. This is not a watch others tie event; we want everyone to participate. Advanced tiers can help those who may need some guidance. Tiers will provide hooks and materials so that everyone can bring finished flies home to use as models of some of our club member's most productive patterns. Fly tying is simple, fun and another way to enjoy our sport. This is your opportunity to tie-one-on with the club and come away with a few great new flies!

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.

April 2015 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to April and hope you found time to fish our beautiful waters. Look for our fishing report for tips.

Thanks to Dr. Liz Wallace for her presentation on her research on bonefish and tarpon. Liz gave us great information on two of our favorite species and how to protect them. Her work is funded through our Florida fishing licenses so be sure to keep yours up-to-date. We will ask Dr Liz to come back in a couple of years to update us.

I'm fishing in Abaco, Bahamas for a week with Ted Hagaman and we will miss the next meeting. We are on another DIY adventure and hope to present successful results at a future meeting. On that note, Kelly and Wes agreed to talk to us about their trip to the Miami area this spring where they had a good trip fishing on their own.

If you come early to the meeting, please do not enter the room before 05:30 PM. Other patrons may be using it.

// Walt Durkin 

EVENTS

- **Project Healing Waters** now meets the 3rd Wednesday either at Flint Creek or the American Legion #5 for fly tying. Contact phwff.tampa@gmail.com for details.
- 9 Apr – **Fly Fishing Film tour**, Tampa Picture Show, N Dale Mabry, flyfilmtour.com for details
- **Annual Mexico trip** – 17 to 24 October

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin	813-476-7128
Vice President: Ted Hagaman	813-920-8473
Treasurer: Rick Valeri	813-681-9143
Secretary: Dick Miekka	727-866-8682
Directors	
Patty Anderson	813-960-8523
Denise Bruner	813-989-2909
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

2014 TBFFC MEETING DATES

This month's meeting is 1 Apr followed by 6 May.

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

8 March: Club Banquet at Hunter's Green. Thanks to all of you who attended our banquet. Everyone had a great time and Hunter's Green again provided a super venue. Thanks to the board members for planning and getting the auction items and raffle baskets. Special thanks to Frank Rhodes for the two flats of select strawberries straight from his farm. Thanks to those folks who donated items including Andy, Rick Fender, Lynn Skipper, Robert and Rick O'Hara. Thanks to the ladies of the club who put together the raffle baskets. Thanks to Denise for selling the tickets and our Treasurer Rick for keeping all the money straight. And finally, thanks to all those I did not mention by name, club members and spouses who really worked together to host a successful banquet. Please let us know the things we can do better and look forward to next year.

Also, special thanks to the **Orvis Company** who donated us a rod and reel outfit for the third year running. And, to **Massage Envy** in South Tampa for a one-hour massage as they do every year and to Flint Creek Outfitters for two gift certificates.

17-24 Oct: Costa de Cocas lodge in Mexico. Xcalak and Chetumal Bay are rated one of the best fishing destinations in the world. Capt Frank Rhodes will coordinate the trip for up to 10 anglers again this fall. **Capt Frank is now accepting deposits for this trip.**

Bonefish Genetics Kits available.


The link is on the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust website: <http://www.bonefishtarpontrust.org/bonefish-genetics-program/bonefish-genetics-program.html>. At the bottom of that page, there is an email address & phone number to reach them. To obtain a kit of bonefish fin clip sample envelopes, please contact: info@bonefishtarpontrust.org, or 321-674-7758. Use these kits to sample bonefish and help this worthwhile project.

Bonefish Contest: Dr Liz Wallace reports her colleague Aaron Shultz, with the Cape Eleuthera Institute in the Bahamas, is working with her on their bonefish project. They are running a contest to help raise funds for research on spawning on Grand Bahama. The prizes include a 5 day bonefishing trip for 2 with H2O Bonefishing and a research experience trip to CEI. The attached newsletter has more information about the contest (page 3) & their work. The contest details and donation link are also listed on the following website: <http://www.fishconserve.org/bonefishcontest/>.

Marine Seminar. Thanks to club members Capt Pat Damico, Leigh West and Lynn Skipper who hosted a club table at the Marine Corps muster on 21 March. They met and talked with Marines, tied flies and promoted our club.

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES, cont.

Salty Fly Tournament: About 200 fly anglers fished this year and had a great time. Thanks to Sam Root and his sponsors for hosting another great tournament. **Captains Greg Peterson and Nick Angelo** from our club finished in third place with 59 inches (two reds, one trout). Fishing conditions were tough with SE winds and a flat morning tide. I fished with Robert Fischer and Robert got one nice trout. We had our chances at a couple of nice reds, but they did not eat our flies. Watch for Sam to announce the tournament for next year in the fall on his website (Saltyshores.com) and he will give priority to those who participated this year. 

9 April: Fly Fishing Film Tour. The original and preeminent exhibition of fly fishing cinema. Each year fishy folk of all ages gather at premieres to soak up films from around the world, spin a few yarns amongst friends and dream about casts still unmade. Location is TAMPA PITCHER SHOW, 14416 N Dale Mabry Hwy. Show starts t 07:00 PM, but come early to join us for food and drink at the pub next door to the theater. Get tickets online or at Flint Creek Outfitters. 

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE TYING BENCH

By C.W. “Don” Coleman

HAS THE MAGIC GONE OUT OF YOUR FLY TYING? Try something different and experiment with blended colors in your flies. Manually mix hairs from dyed bucktails in the wings of your saltwater flies--bendbacks for example--to give the impression of other colors, or to simply modify any solid color. You can tint or shade any color, or create texture within a solid color to create a vibrancy and the impression of life and movement in the wing

Don't overdress the fly. Space within the wing will allow water to move individual hairs and allow light to penetrate the wing. Depending on how the light hits individual hairs, they can each exhibit a different hue. Notice that although all the leaves on a tree may be the same color, individual leaves will have a different hue depending on the how they are lighted (directly, backlighted, shaded, or by reflected colors.) Also notice how much more mobile are the leaves of some trees (such as Aspen and Maples) than are those of dense conifers because there is space around the individual leaves that allows the wind to move them. You want to give the impression of life within a fly, and mixing colors is another way to create that illusion. Blending colors is easy.

P.S. If you enjoy Don's musings you can get a book of his complete collection at the next meeting. //Walt

Picnic Island Casting Clinic

Tom Gadacz of the Suncoast Club provided this recap of the recent casting clinic:

Macauley Lord, IFFF Certified Master Casting Instructor and the person who put L. L. Bean fly fishing on the map, held a video casting clinic at Picnic Island Park on February 27 and 28. There were 25 participants who learned how to use video recording and slow motion video analysis to study their casting style. Slow motion video analysis is used in many sports especially golf and tennis and has also been used to train Olympic bobsled teams. Dayle Mazzarella and Pat Damico, IFFF Master Certified Casting Instructors, organized the event and helped with the casting instructions. We learned a new application for various recording devices including smart phones, pads, and tablets. The app most used was Ubersense (HYPERLINK "<http://www.ubersense.com>"; www.ubersense.com). This app can be used in either Apple devices or android devices. Most participants came well prepared with the app already loaded and ready to go. We paired up and alternated casting and videoing. Macauley had a very positive approach to teaching and included everyone in the discussion. He had us tell our partner what we wanted out of the session and then tell the group what our partner wanted to accomplish. We sure remained focused on what we were doing and how we were doing it. We learned not only how to use the app but also some of its drawing tools. It was really neat seeing your cast in slow motion. We learned how to position the caster and the recorder. It was amazing to see what we needed to improve. We worked on keeping our loops tight by improving the speed of acceleration of our stroke, a straight line rod tip path, and starting and stopping our stroke at the proper position. We also learned how to group together under the shelter and discuss video casting when the rain was pouring down (especially on Saturday) and then get out on the field for casting and videoing our casting. It all worked well and we now go forth with a new technique to help us analyze our casting form. It was a great session and exciting to apply a new technology to improve our casting. Most of us left with confidence of using slow motion video analysis as an aid in improving our fly casting.



Photo by
Capt Rick
Grassett

PROJECT HEALING WATERS TRIP

On March 20, club members Mike Perez and Rick O'Hara accompanied a group of disabled military veterans and some volunteers from the Project Healing Waters organization on a trout fishing trip to Mountain Rest, South Carolina, near where South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina come together. We met another Healing Waters group from Greenville, SC and some members of the local Trout Unlimited chapter to fish the waters of the Chattooga and Chauga Rivers.

This area is in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. We stayed in cabins at Oconee State Park, a facility built by the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) in the 1930's near the community of Mountain Rest, SC.

The trip was facilitated by the local fly shop, Chattooga River Fly Shop, a small family business run by a very nice couple who helped the group out by providing waders and boots for those who did not have any and guides on both the rivers.

Another veterans' support group from Georgia provided rods for those who did not have their own.

After meeting for breakfast, we adjourned to the fly shop, where everyone was outfitted and then broke into two groups, one going to the Chattooga and the other group going to the Chauga. Mike went with the Chattooga group and Rick went with the Chauga group. The Chauga is a much smaller river than the Chattooga, but is extremely productive.

The majority of the veterans had never fly fished before, but were given plenty of help and attention by the guides and volunteers. Lunch was provided on the rivers. Both groups fished until about 5:00pm and we then adjourned to a local church for a wild game dinner featuring items such as venison, bear, alligator and raccoon – bear and raccoon are surprisingly good!

While fishing on the Chauga we ran into former TBFFC member John Collier, who now lives in the area and thinks very highly of it.

TFO reels were awarded to the veterans who caught the largest fish and the most fish. A participant from the Chattooga group caught the largest fish (16 in.) and one from the Chauga group caught the most (10).

Everyone enjoyed the trip and we hope to do others of the same type in the future. It was very rewarding helping people out who have served their country, but have suffered as a result.

For those who are interested in trout fishing, this would be a great place to go. The nearest major airport is in Greenville, SC, only about an hour away. The accommodations at Oconee State Park are comfortable and reasonably priced. The owner and head guide at Chattooga River Fly Shop, Carl, took great care of us and is very knowledgeable about fishing the area.

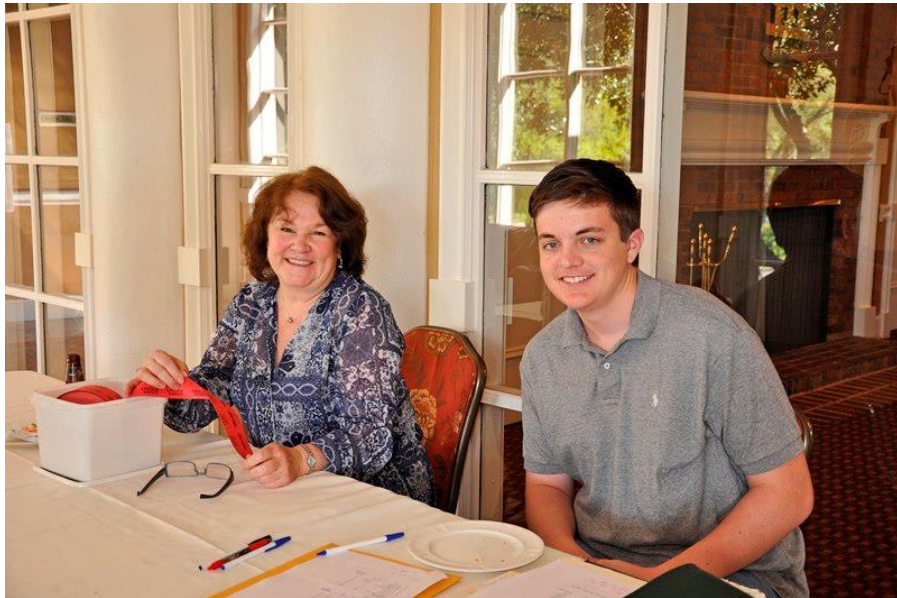
Project Healing Water Trip Photo's

Thanks to Rick and Mike for representing the club on this trip and helping the veterans.



Pictures: one is of former TBFFC member John Collier, who we encountered on the river, one is of Debbie Bell, a veteran and wife of another disabled veteran on the trip and Stan Doty, the veteran who won the reel for most fish.

Hunter's Green Banquet Photo's



Steve and Amber Parker with Becky Rhodes, Denise Bruner and Logan Valarie on duty, Bruce and Patty Anderson with Rick Fender



Mar 21 trip to the Everglades backcountry. Resting at a Tiki Hut, checking out the old Watson place and a visit by the Marine Patrol. Beautiful day and caught Mangrove snapper, snook, lady fish and jacks.

Joshua and Zachary Ceranic
with fish at the Polk Fly
works contest



Capt Rick Grassettt guided his anglers to the above fish in Sarasota Bay

Capt Frank Rhodes
Peacock bass



Capt Bryon Chamberlin fished with Capt Greg Peterson who caught a rare Tampa Bay permit on the fly and with Dr Greg Stepanski who caught very nice 150 lb tarpon.

Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”


Welcome to Spring and warmer waters in Tampa Bay. The flats are really heating up and attracting both bait and predators. Watch for schools of mullet, which continue to attract multiple gamefish to swim with them. Check your tide charts and fish those days with good moving tides when possible.

Snook are moving out of the creeks and canals and are on the flats in good numbers. Scan the flats carefully while wading or from a boat. These big fish are still dark and stand out well. Try Puglisi minnow flies with a long leader and a 30 lb. fluorocarbon bite tippet. We are also seeing good numbers of redfish, both in schools and scattered. They are tailing early in the morning on incoming tides. Try spoon flies, bendbacks, or small shrimp and crab patterns. These fish are spooky and require long casts and light leaders (12 lb.). The Upper Bay is holding many redfish so far this spring. Moreover, Andy Constantinou reports taking a 24 inch redfish near Apollo Beach after seeing about 50 reds.

Watch also for black drum on the incoming tide. These fish tail readily and will eat small crab or shrimp flies. They run from 8 to 10 pounds and are strong fighters with usually one good long run. They also will hang with roaming mullet schools. Fishing the MacDill Flat we got 10 drum and 6 redfish over two mornings.

Capt John Hand suggests tarpon will leave the Little Manatee river and travel along the flats out to the passes this spring. Set up along the sand bars at low tide and sight fish for them from the Lil' Manatee south to the Port.

Capt Rick Grasset reports you may find trout, blues, pompano or flounder on deep grass flats, particularly close to passes. Look for reds, snook and big trout mixed with mullet schools on shallow flats and edges of bars.

If you are looking for new fly, try the Avalon Permit fly. You can find instructions for this easy-to-tie fly on Youtube. It looks like a shrimp, but can pass for a crab also. I have tied them in tan and green with good results. Spooky redfish have eaten them as well as snook, trout, and black drum. Hop the fly on the bottom if you are sight fishing or swim the fly with short strips if you are blind casting. I tie the fly without the beaded keel on the bottom, but try it both ways. This fly is a winner! 

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Apr 9** Fly Film Tour in Tampa
- **Apr 16** CCA Banquet
- May Buchan's Landing Outing in Englewood
- June Beginners Clinic
- July John Millns' Freshwater Outing
- Aug Scallop Outing
- Sept 12-13 Florida Sportsman Show
- Sep CCA
- Oct FFF Enclave, Miami, FL
- Oct 17-24 Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip
- Oct Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River
- Nov Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Dec Members Year End Party
- Dec Play Hooky
- 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
- Capt. Russ Shirley (727) 343-1957
- Capt. Keiland Smith (863) 944-7475

Fly Casting Coaches

Dade City

Jeff Janecek.....352-588-3866

South Tampa

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

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
- AWESOME FISHING ADVENTURES, Capt. Keiland Smith, (863) 944-7475
- 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
- CAPT. RUSS SHIRLEY, (727) 343-1957 www.captruss.com
- FLINT CREEK OUTFITTERS, 1502 N. West Shore Blvd., Tampa, 33607, (855)-892-7226, www.flintcreekoutfitters.com
- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 www.captpat.com, pat4jaws@hotmail.com
- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grassett, (941) 923-7799, www.snookfin-addict.com
- SWANN'S FLY FISHING SHOP, Jim Swann, 13650 South 98 Bypass, Dade City, 33525, (352) 567-6029

alligator bob's
PREMIUM MEAT SNACKS



Robert "Alligator Bob" Young

P. O. Box 522 Thonotosasso, FL 33592-0522

Ph: (813) 986-3008

Email: gatorbob@gatorbob.com

Order online!

gatorbob.com



SaltFllys

Custom Built Saltwater Flies

CRAIG SMOTHERS

5526 SHADY BROOK TR.

SARASOTA, FL 34243

PHONE: (941) 266-5209

EMAIL: SALTFLYS@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE: WWW.SALTFLYS.COM



Spin Tackle

Fly Tackle

The Fly Guy

Capt. Pat Damico

2981 E. Vina del Mar Blvd.

St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Tel. 727-504-8649

Hppt://captpat.com

pat4jaws@hotmail.com

3WAY
CONSTRUCTION CO.
OF TAMPA INC.

License Number
CGC037643

Robert Fischer

813-495-5685

P.O. Box 342774 Tampa, FL 33694

Barbed Steel Charters, Inc.

Specializing In Fly Fishing Along Florida's West Central Gulf Coast



Capt. Bryon Chamberlin

(813) 361-8801

captbryon@yahoo.com

www.barbedsteel.com



JIM SWANN'S



Complete Fly Fishing Shop

Rods - Reels - Hand Tied Flies - Materials

Guide Service

Classes in Flying Tying and Casting

352-567-6029

13650 So. 98 By Pass
Dade City, FL 33525



CAPT. JOHN HAND

U.S.C.G. License # 0000000000000000



FLY FISHING & LIGHT TACKLE CHARTERS

FLY CASTING INSTRUCTION

SOUTH TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA

REDFISH • SNOOK • SHARK • TARPON

239-842-7778

www.redfishsnooksharktarpon.com

2014 Member Application
Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

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

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, 33510