



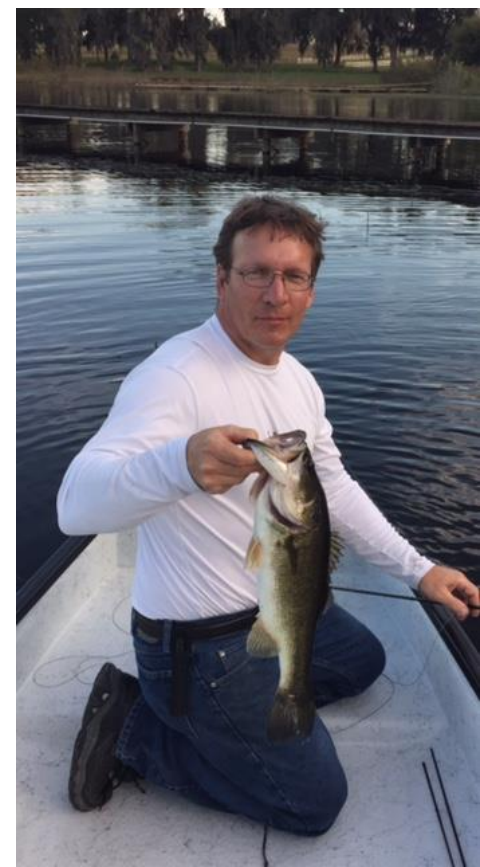
Next meeting 6 April 2016

0600 PM to 0900 PM

Guest Speaker: Nanette O'Hara

Nanette is the Public Outreach Coordinator for the Tampa Bay Estuary Program responsible for communicating the program's goals and successes to the media and the public, and for developing strategies to improve community awareness of bay problems and solutions. Nanette is a former environmental reporter for the Tampa Tribune, where she authored an award-winning series on Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico and was twice nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, journalism's highest honor. Nanette is an avid saltwater fly fisher, cyclist, nature photographer and Certified Florida Master Gardener with Hillsborough County Extension. Nanette, a good friend of the club, will update us on the health of the grass in Tampa Bay.

Jeff Janesek is our guest tyer and will tie his bass popper. Jeff is a dedicated club member and ties at almost every meeting. He specializes in fresh water and wins many friendly competitions for the club. The nice bass pictured fell to his popper. If you watch him intently at the meeting he may award you a fly.



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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to April and our warmer spring weather. I hope you have a chance to get out and test our waters.

Thanks to Cameron Jaggard for speaking at our last meeting. He gave an interesting and informative presentation on preserving our fishery. We will invite him back for an update in a couple of years.

We welcome your input on speakers for the club and on outings. We try to have quality speakers, so keep you eyes open for good prospects. The same goes for outings we can enjoy as a club.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and you can even try to post your own photo if you so dare!

Bring your fly rods to our meetings now and practice your casting with expert guidance.

Please note my new email: walt.durkin@aol.com

// Walt Durkin 

EVENTS

- Casting Clinic, 5 Mar, Maximo Park
- Club Banquet, 6 Mar, 3 PM
- Suncoast Fly Club Banquet, 2 Apr
- Everglades trip, 22-23 Apr
- Captain Mel Classic, 7 May
- Lake Calm outing, June

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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walt.durkin@aol.com

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Bruce Anderson 813-960-8523

Rick O'Hara 813-238-6763

2016 TBFFC MEETING DATES

This month's meeting is 6 Apr from 6 to 9 PM.

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

Our annual banquet was well attended and a rousing success. The club earned about \$1000 thanks to your participation and support. Special thanks to **Joe Welbourn** of Carbon Marine for donating two Line Lairs, one of which I purchased. I have fished with it twice in the wind with great results. Thanks also to **Frank Rhodes and Becky** for the two flats of select strawberries and several other items Frank donated. Thanks again to **Steve Parker** for hand-crafting a pen and stich remover from exotic woods. **Rick O'Hara** donated a fly reel and **Andy Constantinou** donated a serving tray. Thanks to **Mark and Mary Emery** for a great presentation on Alaska. And, to **Drs. John and Laura Millns** for the skin care items. Finally, thanks to our guides who donated four trips. **Message Envy** supported us with a one hour message and our board members donated the raffle baskets. These donations comprised the bulk of our profits and we are grateful. I hope everyone enjoyed the event and we welcome feedback.

Salty Fly Tournament 11-13 Mar: About 200 fly anglers fished the annual Salty Fly out of the Little Harbor resort in Ruskin. Congratulations to Chris Hargiss and Jon Brett for winning in consecutive years with two reds and a trout totaling 71". Fishing was tough with a S/SE breeze under cloudy skies. Trout were hard to find and the redfish spooky. The **Pro division** poling contest went to David Chouinard and Colby Hane winning by 1 second better time than our **Nick Angelo and Greg Peterson**.

Everglades Trip 22-23 April. Several club members with experience in the Everglades will fish the weekend. If interested sign up at the April meeting. The River Wilderness camp ground is one good place to stay.

Project Healing Waters: Take a look at this link for an update on PHWs, a program for military veterans our club supports:
<https://www.projecthealingwaters.org/NewsMedia/Announcements/tabid/147/post/with-every-cast-a-new-chance/Default.aspx>



TBFFC NEWS & NOTES, CONT.

CCA'S Tide Magazine has an article on "The Invisible Threat" referring to the Vibrio bacteria. This bacteria thrives in saltwater and can cause illness, loss of flesh and death. Read the article for the full details or Google it for more info. Bottom line is do not wade in salt water with an open cut. If you have been in salt water and a cut or bruise starts to get painful, red and hot seek treatment immediately, as these bacteria are very fast acting. Tell medical personnel you have been in salt water and suspect Vibrio. When we fished the Cypress flat in mid-March the beach was closed to swimming. The attendant said the water is tested every Monday and the bacteria count was too high that week. Florida Department of Health officials say people shouldn't be afraid of going into Florida's waters, but those with suppressed immune systems, such as people who have cancer, diabetes or cirrhosis of the liver, should be aware of the potential hazards of Vibrio, especially if they have an open wound.

The Backcountry Fly Fishing Association presents the life and times of Flip Pallot on 7 April at 6:00 PM in Orlando. Tickets are \$50 at <http://bfaorlando.com/flip-pallot/>

Suncoast Everglades Outing, April 22-24, Ken Hofmeister reports they have twelve rooms (two beds in each) reserved at SFF reduced rates of \$103 (includes breakfast). Members may call: La Quinta, Sunrise Sawgrass Mills directly at 954-846-1200 (ask for Gladys or any front desk person). Or, reservations may be made by calling 1-800-642-4230, option 1. Motel address is 13651 N. W. 2nd St., Sunrise, FL. Reservations must be made by cut off date of April 1.

On Saturday, March 5, Suncoast Fly Fishers and the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club hosted a Fly Casting Clinic with five Master Casting Instructors Dayle Mazarella and Pat Damico of the Suncoast Fly Fishers, Steve Smith of New Brunswick and Jim Dowd of Massachusetts with a huge assist by other well known casting instructors in the Tampa Bay area, Chris O'Byrne, Leigh West, and Steve Parker. In all, 41 area fly fishers participated in the clinic and several came forward and said they learned more than in big name casting clinics costing \$250. This clinic cost only \$35 but it was free to IFFF members. Clinics by IFFF-certified casting instructors are among the rewards of membership.





Leigh West photo shows a good turnout at the casting clinic.



One festive table at the Hunter's Green Country Club
TBFFC 2016 annual banquet
Nanette O'Hara photo



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Wine basket, our speaker Mark Emery, and Lou, Kathy, Bruce, Patty all smiling.



Leigh with a red, a nice trout ready for release, three fish on the way to dinner, a mullet, a red, and a sheepshead



Rob Walters sight-fished a pompano on the MacDill flat (Leigh West photo)

Club members Rick O'Hara and Greg Cutuli served as volunteer leaders on a Project Healing Waters trip to S. Carolina in March. Nine disabled veterans went on the 4-day trip to fish for trout in the Chattooga River. The group stayed in cabins at Oconee State Park. Fishing equipment and guide assistance was provided by Chattooga River Fly Shop and students in a Clemson University fly fishing program. The Tampa Bay group joined a Project Healing Waters group from Greenville. All the veterans caught trout, and enjoyed swapping fish stories around the campfire.



Greg wading the Chattooga river and Joe with a trout.



The Chattooga runs along the Georgia S Carolina line and is a designated Wild and Scenic River. The club will host a trip there this fall.



Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

The 4th Annual Saturday at the Crosthwait

Saturday May 14th, 7:00am to Lunch

- ❓ Open to every disabled Active Service & Veteran
- ❓ Professional Guides & Boats
- ❓ Equipment provided (fly & traditional)
- ❓ Beginners to Advanced – everyone welcome
- ❓ Captains Meeting / Coffee & Doughnuts 7:00 to 8:00 am
- ❓ Fishing 8:00am to lunch
- ❓ Lunch provided by **the Bradenton Yacht Club**
- ❓ **4307 Snead Island Road, Palmetto, FL 34221**
- ❓ **Information; Mike Reeves 813-340-5510**

Awards After Lunch 2015

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc.™ is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.

TBFFC Cookbook Project

As the new year is off to a great start, so is a project that the fly fishing club has decided to take on. We are in the process of creating a club cookbook!

Now we all know first hand from the club's outings, camping trips, and the holiday parties that the club has plenty of great cooks, chefs, master of the grills and coleman stoves! How wonderful it would be to share all our best recipes with each other in our own signature book. We have enough members that if everyone participated we would have a great volume of culinary wealth.

We are asking members who enjoy a good meal to mail, email, or bring to the meeting up to 5 of your best recipes.

We will include your name on the recipe so make sure you provide it. If hand written, please write legibly so we will not make mistakes in deciphering the ingredients, leading to a kitchen disaster! Also be sure to include exact directions, including cooking times, oven temps and specific amounts of the ingredients. Recipes may be for appetizers, outdoor/camp grilling, salads, soups, main courses, deserts, or even drinks!

Depending on the response, we may not be able to include every recipe submitted, and we may not have time to test each of the recipes, so be sure all information to create the special dish is included.

If you have any great pictures of fish or club outings using your recipes, or a favorite fly fishing quote feel free to pass them along as well, to embellish the book.

We would like these sent within the next month, so we can get this project underway, so don't delay and forget or we will be missing out on your culinary finesse!

Send recipes to:

email: andersonmailbox@gmail.com

mail: Patty Anderson

11726 Lipsey Road

Tampa, FL 33618



Tips for TBFFC

The Importance of the Back Cast: The back cast has been touted as your most important cast. Why???? Because it is the setup for your forward casts and your presentation cast!!!! Making a forward cast with a poor back cast complicates things and never has a good result. Just watch the big guns at our TBFFC November event. You will know when the longest casts are made by watching the back cast. Back casts with large loops, too early or late forward application of power, sag, 180 degree rule violations, and ticking the ground will all be setups for poor final forward casts. Watch your back cast during practice by placing your casting foot a little behind your other foot. This allows you to get a good look at what is going on behind you. If when you turn to see your back cast you rotate your body or wrist, your fly legs will not be parallel. To correct this, turn your head at the last minute to see the back cast. In fishing situations, you should keep your eye on the target

Damico, MCI

Random Thoughts from the Tying Bench

By C.W. "Don" Coleman

A DIFFERENT WEED GUARD – Lefty Kreh sent me some 45 pound, plastic coated, braided, stainless steel wire and recommended I use it for weed guards. After you complete a fly, cut off a short length of the coated wire and flatten the tip to lie along the underside of the head of the fly and tie in place with the tying thread. Bend down the wire as needed to protect the hook point. Then coat the head with five minute epoxy. When dry, you can bend the weed guard any way you want. It really works. If you don't like to use epoxy, secure the weed guard with CA glue or head cement.

Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain’s Corner: The local water temperature has finally hit my magic number, 65. At the beginning of each month I consult my fishing log, an old school notebook, that has records of my previous trips. In the short recap of my trip, I always include water temperature. Lethargic winter snook on our west coast that survived our relatively mild winter can now leave those haunts and chase a fly. They are leaving deeper water, like residential canals, marinas, channels, bridges and estuaries. They first stage close to these places so they can return if colder weather comes back. Target edges of flats, sand holes, points, drop-offs, structure in deep water and sea walls. They are there not only to get warm, but to feed on baitfish. Having been exposed to small glass minnows all winter a larger offering is hard to refuse. Baitfish will vary in size and color in some areas so carefully look into the water to see what is available. Match the hatch and make your presentation a similar color and size. If snook are near the bottom in 4 or 5 feet of water, your offering near the surface will be refused. A slow deep retrieve is preferred. Sink tip lines with a fluorocarbon 30-pound tippet and weighted flies will produce. This same tactic will produce reds and large trout. If you get cut off a few times, Spanish mackerel will be the culprit so change your tippet to 30-pound hard monofilament.

Capt Rick Grassette reports catch and release snook fishing around lighted docks and bridges and trout, blues and more on deep grass flats should be good options. Reds are schooling on flats of Sarasota Bay and there should still be some tarpon in the coastal gulf. You should also find tarpon in upper Charlotte Harbor and areas of Sarasota and Tampa Bay. Juvenile tarpon in canals and creeks or around bridges are also good options.

Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports: The action is simply strong. The middle of March, going toward the end is the best stretch of the year. The water temperature and action are good. If you aren't fishing now, it's your own fault. The big trout are active finally and the mackerel are easy. Redfish are a fantastic choice and will be a good for the next two full months. Go. If you don't go, feel dumb when you read everyone else's fishing reports because they will be great.

Walt reports steady action on the MacDill flats with one 20-fish day. We fished a sunny day last week with a north wind and found fish roaming the flats all day from 8 to 4. Sight fishing was good over sand in clear water. Reds were spooky as usual, but you could get them with small flies and patience. Trout and snook are also showing up as the water warms. Pompano and sheepshead were a bonus last week.

2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 8-10 Annual Shad Outing, St Johns river
- Jan 13 FWC Snook Symposium
- Feb 8-14 Christmas Island one week trip
- Mar 5 Casting Clinic at Maximo Park
- Mar 6 Annual Banquet
- Apr 22-23 TBFFC Everglades Weekend Trip
- Jun Lake Calm Outing
- Oct 29-Nov 4 Xcalac Mexico One-Week Trip
- Dec Play Hooky at the Hatchery

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
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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
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