



Next meeting 3 Aug 2016
0600 PM to 0900 PM
Guest Speaker: Walt Durkin
Where and How to Wade Fish



Biography: Walt is the club president and a life long fisherman. He grew up in West Palm Beach when you could still walk out the back of your house into the woods to hunt, fish and explore. For most of his youth he fished both fresh and salt water while specializing in snook around the bridges and spillways. After a career in the military, Walt returned to Florida in 1998 where he focuses on fly fishing. When not fishing at home, he likes to travel with his wife Lou and club members on adventures to Alaska, British Columbia, Mexico, Belize and the Bahamas.

Presentation: Walt, with the help of club members, will talk about wade fishing Tampa Bay. Powerpoint slides will illustrate 13 wade fishing locations in our area. We will discuss each location in detail showing how and where to fish. We will also discuss techniques for successful wade fishing, including gear, safety and how to catch different species. Please join us for this talk and add your own tips and perspective.

Tyer: Layne "Smitty" Smith is our feature tyer. Come and observe a true artist.

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 the dog days of August. I hope you find time to fish amid the summer heat and storms.

Thanks to **Zack Judd** for his interesting and informative presentation on the work he does to tag and track gamefish. We learned a lot about snook and bonefish and the efforts to preserve the fish and their habitat. And, thanks to **Craig Smothers** for tying the fly of the month, a new shrimp pattern that should be a winner.

We have lots of things going on the rest of the year so check your schedules and mark your calendars. I hope you can attend many of these events.

Please look at our club Facebook page and add photos if you wish. This is a great venue to promote our club.

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

Please send your recipes to Patty Anderson if you have been procrastinating. We would like to publish this year!

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

// Walt 

EVENTS

- Englewood Outing, 1-2 October
- Chattooga River trout trip, 13-18 Nov
- Casting Clinic, Picnic Island, 19 Nov
- Big Gun, Picnic Island, 20 Nov

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2016 TBFFC MEETING DATES

This month's meeting is 3 August from 6 to 9 PM.

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

Club Flag Project: Patty Anderson is working hard on sewing our two traveling club flags. We will have our logo on one side and a club slogan on the other. To this end, we are soliciting ideas for a club slogan. Please put on your thinking caps and email your ideas to me by the July meeting. Members will take our flags on club adventures and include it in cool photos, which we can post on our Facebook page.

Casting Clinic on Picnic Island 19 Nov. Please join us for this casting clinic hosted by **Capt. Pat Damico**. Pat and club members to include **Dayle Mazzarella, Steve Parke** and others will provide expert instruction. This event supports the Federation of Fly Fishers and is free to all who are FFF members; so, please join. This is the day before our 2016 Big Gun, so come along and fine tune your casting just in time. We will provide lunch and drinks.

IFFF Florida Expo, 4-5 November, Plantation in Crystal River. This is a great event that supports our national organization. Watch this space for more details or check online.

FFF Fair: The Federation is having its Annual Fly Fishing Fair in Livingston, MT August 2-6. They are requesting donations in the form of fly fishing equipment, trips, etc. for the auction. Please send any donations to Jessica Atherton (jessica@fedflyfishers.org).

Costa de Cocas Mexico Trip 29 Oct -5 Nov. Our annual trip to Mexico still has a couple of openings. This super trip is \$2250, a great value for 7 nights and 6 days of tropical fishing for bonefish, tarpon and permit. Diving on the reef is also available. Great accommodations, guides; food and drinks all included. I go every year and would not miss it. Contact Frank Rhodes captfranksnookon@tampabay.rr.com to reserve your spot.



TBFFC NEWS & NOTES, CONT.

Chattooga River Trip. We have changed the dates of this trip to 13-18 November. We are staying in the log cabins at the Oconee State Park in S Carolina. We have reserved cabins 18, 19 and 20. Please see me or **Ted Hagaman** at the next meeting if you would like to go. The Chattooga, a Wild and Scenic River, is fairly easy to wade and really beautiful. We will fish the delayed harvest season (catch and release) for rainbows, browns and brook trout.

Amazon River trip 1-8 Oct run by High Roller Adventures, call Terry (352) 215-2925. This is a one-week trip to the Amazon fishing for peacock bass and other exotic species. Special low price of \$2950 includes most expenses except air fare and visa. **We now have six anglers and still have a couple of openings.**

Two Memorial Outings: I added two more outings to our list at the end of the newsletter. On 23 October we will have our annual **Carl Hanson** Outing on the Hillsborough River with the Suncoast Club. This is a great morning of fishing followed by lunch. We also have a friendly competition with the Suncoast for the most or biggest fish. Additionally, the Suncoast will host the **Don Coleman** Classic on the 18 December at Ft Desoto. More details to come on this outing at which we remember the life of Don Coleman. Don and Carl were both icons of local fly fishing and fondly remembered by many anglers.

Englewood Outing. We will fish out of Buchan's Landing Resort the weekend of 1-2 October. Make your own reservations for this informal outing. Members will bring boats and fish the Englewood area for trout, snook and redfish. The resort is inexpensive, comfortable, and includes dock slips. Address: 599 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL 34223 Phone:(941) 474-5100



Tips for TBFFC

Four common casting faults. These are from *Lefty's American Masters Fly Fishing Symposium*. One, don't start the back cast too fast and yank the line from the water; start slowly and smoothly, then accelerate. Two, don't take the rod tip too far back on the back cast; stop at 1 o'clock directing the line up and back. Three, don't start the rod forward too fast; let the rod load and start forward smoothly, then accelerate and stop. Finally, don't bring the rod too far down on the forward stroke. Remember, the line follows the rod tip, so stop the rod high to send the line out to the target.

Tip. To increase efficiency and distance be sure to aim your cast high. Imagine casting at the tree tops or even a cloud. This will force you to stop the rod earlier on your forward cast and send your line up and out. Gravity will always return your fly and line to the water unless you really did hit those trees. //Walt

Random Thoughts from the Tying Bench

By C.W. "Don" Coleman

HACKLE FLIES – The basic Hackle Fly, which has lately been popularized as the Sea Ducer by Chico Fernandez, was developed in the late 1880s. In its basic version it consists of a splayed saddle hackle tail tied in at the bend of the hook with saddle hackles wound up the shank of the hook. Today, mylar flash is usually added to the tail. In the early days of saltwater fly fishing the fly was used to imitate shrimp. What ever it is supposed to imitate, it is widely used today in both fresh and salt water fly fishing. It is usually tied on either standard length or long shank hooks in sizes ranging from #2 to #1/0. Lefty Kreh writes about the Red and White Hackle Fly, "This is one of the best patterns for both large and smallmouth bass that I've fished in more than 50 years I've been chasing them." Lefty favors an all white tail and with red wound hackles. It is also one of the top five flies Lefty recommends for inshore saltwater fly fishing. Hackle flies are simple, highly productive flies that land softly and, if tied full, can nearly suspend in the water column. **Note:** I have had good success with a yellow and red seducer as well as all brown for redfish. Seaducers also are a great tarpon pattern tied in purple. Try these simple, easy-to-tie patterns for all your shallow water fishing.

Fly of the Month

Craig Smother's

Hairy Leg Mantis Shrimp

Shrimp Horn - Dark olive calf tail

Tail - Fish Skull Shrimp and Cray tail

Hook - Diariki 930

Body - EP Tarantula Hairy Legs Brush

0.5" wide, sculpin color.

Crab mono eyes

Thread - Flymaster Plus 230

Legs – Sili-legs



- Wrap thread to back of hook then advance about 2/3 way toward hook eye and tie on Shrimp and Cray tail over hook eye, pointing up.
- Tie small bundle of calf tail on top of the hook so it is about about 3/4 inch past hook bend.
- Tie in crab eyes so they are about 1/4 inch past hook bend, angling down toward hook bend. Tie so they splay out.
- Tie in one Silileg, doubled, and cut so it is about a hook length past the hook bend.
- Palmer Tarantula brush from about bend of hook to Fish Skull tail.
- Tie off thread, whip finish and cement.



Floyd Holder with a beach snook on Sanibel Island, Walt with a baby tarpon from under the Gandy Bridge, Craig Smothers fishing with Capt Pete Greenan caught a snook near Boca Grande.



Jack Hexter sends this report on his travels around the country: “I’ve been fishing all over the west this summer, besides Lake Taneycomo, I’ve fished the Bighorn out of Ft Smith, MT, the Snake out of Jackson Hole, the Provo out of Heber City, UT, and the Freemont and UM Creek out of Torrey, UT. Only god and the guide could find UM Creek. Anyway, besides a lot of rainbows and brown trout, I’ve added a couple new species for me, cut throat on the Snake and tiger trout on UM Creek.”



Club member Jim Adams with a Dolly Varden caught on the Chikoot River, Haines, Alaska in June. “It turned out we were too early for the salmon. The water temperature was 34 degrees.”



Club member **Andrew Constantinou** sent this report on carp fishing in England at Manor Farm, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire: "My friend John and I caught 9 carp weighing about 12 to 25 lbs. Yes, all on the dog biscuit fly tied by **Smitty** (thank you Smitty). We photographed them in the 30" diameter landing net which makes them look a bit small.

Note: Our Florida lakes can hold good numbers of carp, which you can sight fish with a fly rod.



I encourage club members to let us know if they have found potential lakes for carp fishing. Might make a fun summer outing. //Walt



Captain Rick Grassette guided his clients to a good mixed bag of fishing in July.



TBFFC Cookbook Project

TBFF Cookbook Update

We are getting excited! Our Club is proving its culinary skills as recipes are being submitted for the cookbook. We have some excellent submissions - some of them are noted to be historically authentic. We also have obtained a few family “secret” preparations that we had to threaten to break a rod to acquire! However, we need many more before we take this to publication. Do not miss out in having your recipes included! Encourage your fishing buddy to submit the recipe for that great dish you loved at the Christmas party or the Shad Outing. Email them to andersonmailbox@gmail.com or bring them to the next meeting.

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



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain’s Corner. Tarpon fishing brings exciting fly action to our area. Earlier in the year as water warmed and baitfish became more prolific, large tarpon followed, populating local waters. Following the tarpon are predators, including a variety of sharks. Waiting patiently for a tarpon to take a fly can be a long day. Sharks frequently patrol tarpon hot spots, especially in shallow water. Modify your tarpon setup. Ideally, have a second rod rigged to save time. A 10-weight fly rod, 200 yards of 30-pound backing and a leader with a 4-foot 60-pound butt section, 20-pound tippet class tippet and a 1-foot wire bite tippet will attach to the fly. Use a Bimini twist to double the section next to the 40-pound single strand wire. Attach the wire to the double strand leader with an Albright knot. The bright orange or red fly, size 3/0, will need a haywire twist. Cast ahead of the shark and work the fly with a slow, teasing, erratic motion. A hookup will need several serious strip sets low and to the side, then hang on.

Club member Robert Fischer reports: “Smitty and I fished the SFF outing on June 23 at Picnic Island for mackerel. We took out my catamaran early at the Gandy bridge for mangrove snapper and found a nice limit of ten fish on some rock piles nearby. (We used live bait and spinning rods, not flies). Then we went to the middle ground grass flats halfway between Tampa and St. Pete and found perfect conditions, mixed grass and sand, clear water, good tide flow and lots of bait. But no mackerel. We tried the end of Picnic Island also. No luck. So we went home defeated and had to settle for a nice fresh fried snapper dinner. Oh well!”

Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports the action has been outstanding for the middle of summer. We have witnessed the biggest baitfish schools in years. On fly or lures, catches have been strong. It has not been unusual to catch 30 fish per hour. A lot of great trout action. The pompano bite is excellent south of the Skyway. Redfish remain mysterious but should hit a pattern as August approaches.

Capt Rick Grassetto reports tarpon will move to inside waters of Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay this month. You may also find juvenile tarpon in creeks, canals and turning basins. Reds will school on shallow flats and big trout will prowl the same waters at dawn. Also, look for trout on deep grass flats mixed with blues, pompano, Spanish mackerel and more. Catch and release snook fishing should be good around lighted docks at night or in the surf. Look for false albacore (little tunny) to show up in the coastal gulf later in the month.

Tarpon addicts will still be able to get their fix this month. You should still find a few tarpon in the coastal gulf early in the month. As tarpon thin out along beaches, they will move to inside waters where you may find them schooling around bridges or rolling on deep grass flats. They will also feed in schools of ladyfish that are feeding on the surface. You should also find juvenile tarpon from 10 to 30-pounds in creeks, canals and turning basins. Fly anglers should score on juvenile tarpon with 8 or 9-weight fly rods, sinking lines and scaled down tarpon flies.

Snook season remains closed this month so handle them gently and use tackle heavy enough to catch and release them quickly. You'll find them around lighted docks and bridges in the ICW and in the surf. Small white flies, like my Grasset Snook Minnow or Gurglers, should all work well. The same flies will work at night and in the surf, although you should be observant of what size baits are in those areas. Reds will school up this month. You'll find them on shallow flats of north Sarasota Bay, lower Tampa Bay and Gasparilla Sound. They'll be easier to find in shallow water when the tide is low. Look for "nervous" water when it is slick calm or a slick patch of water when there is a ripple on the water. They may push a wake that looks like a boat wake. I try to be as quiet as possible in shallow water, poling to locate them. Once you've located a school of reds, try to get ahead of them to intercept them, much like tarpon fishing. If you work around the edges of the school, you may be able to catch a few of them before they spook. We often also find big jacks, blues and other predators in the mix along with reds. Fly poppers or Gurglers may draw some big strikes!

Trout fishing should be good this month. You may find a big trout in skinny water at first light. Focus on mullet or bait schools to find them. Fly poppers or Gurglers should be very effective at that time of day. I always release big trout over 20", since they are usually females that may be full of roe. One of the largest trout that I have seen caught and released on a fly was a 7 ½-pound fish that blew up on a Gurgler, fished in glass minnow schools! I like the same areas for big trout that I like for reds.

After it gets bright and starts to warm up, drop out to deeper grass flats (4' to 8') for trout, blues, Spanish mackerel and more. I like to drift and cast ahead of my drift with an Ultra Hair Clouser fly fished on a sink tip fly line. I make a series of drifts to locate fish and then shorten the drift or anchor depending on conditions. Ladyfish may feed in glass minnow schools and if they stay up long enough, it will attract trout, blues, mackerel, tarpon or sharks. Wide profile flies, such as Enrico Puglisi style flies, fished slowly around the edges of breaking fish will help keep ladyfish off your lure or fly and give you a chance to catch a tarpon. When blues, Spanish mackerel or sharks are in the mix add 6" of wire or heavy fluorocarbon. Also look for tripletail around crab trap floats, buoys or channel markers in inshore waters this month. My Grasset Flats Minnow fly with a weed guard should work well for tripletail. A weed guard is important since it may help you avoid hooking the crab trap float or line.

You might find false albacore (little tunny) or Spanish mackerel starting to show up in the coastal gulf this month. Look for baitfish to find them. The Tampa Bay ship channel from the Skyway Bridge to Egmont Key is often one of the first areas that they will show up early in the season. Small white flies, like my Grasset Snook Minnow, poppers or Crease flies should all work well. You'll need to add wire or heavy fluorocarbon when toothy fish are in the mix.

Even though it is one of the hottest months of the year, there are lots of options this month. I usually tarpon fish as long as I can either in the coastal gulf or in inside waters. An early start for snook or tarpon around lighted docks or bridges and then on to the flats for reds, trout and more is a good option. Whatever you choose to do, please limit your kill, don't kill your limit!

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 18 Lake Calm Outing
- Oct 1-8 Amazon River Trip
- Oct 8-9 Florida Sportsman Show
- Oct 23 Carl Hanson Outing on the Hillsborough
- Oct 1-2 Englewood Outing at Buchan's Landing Resort
- Oct 29-Nov 5 Xcalac Mexico One-Week Trip
- Nov 4-5 IFFF Expo Plantation in Crystal River
- Nov 13-16 Chattooga River Trip in Georgia
- NOV 19 Casting Clinic on Picnic Island
- Nov 20 Big Gun Shootout, Picnic Island
- Dec 9 Play Hooky at the Hatchery
- Dec 18 Don Coleman Classic at 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
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Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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