TBFFC-11-2016



Next meeting 2 Nov 2016 0600 PM to 0900 PM

**Guest Speaker: Gina Russo** 



Ms. Gina Russo is a Biological Scientist III and Outreach Coordinator for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Stock Enhancement Research Facility located in Port Manatee, where scientists are researching and developing the technology to breed and rear sportfish such as red drum, common snook and spotted sea trout. Gina has been with the commission for 16 years, and primarily works with the recreational fishing community and with numerous fishing organizations to provide information regarding Florida's marine fisheries and research programs. Gina will be presenting a 30 minute talk on "Catch and Release Fishing Techniques, Fishing for Conservation" and will provide hands-on demonstrations on how to properly measure, de-hook and vent fish along with the how to use circle hooks. Gina is a good friend of our club and we look forward to hearing her speak about the her important fisheries work, which, by the way, is paid for with you license fees.

**Mike Perez,** a retired Navy physician and long time club member will tie Jon Cave's Wobbler spoon fly. We have had good luck with spoon flies on reds, snook and trout.

**Directions to Our Meetings (0530pm):** 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 November with cooler weather and low morning tides. This is the perfect time of year to find a favorite flat and go sight fishing.

Thanks to **Kelly** for a great talk on fishing in Alaska. I look forward to fishing with her and Wes in Yakutat, AK next September where we will chase silvers and bears!

And, thanks to **Dale Garcia** for tying his Jingle Bells fly. Find instructions in the newsletter.

**Capt. Frank** and I had a great time fishing the Amazon for peacock bass. We will tell you all about it in a future presentation.

Try to remember to check out and update our Facebook page. Anyone can view the page without signing up for Facebook. Just go to Facebook.com and search for TBFFC. Email Rick O'Hara flyguy47@verizon.net and he will add your photos for you if you can't figure it out. Please note my new email: walt.durkin@aol.com

We will host our annual Holiday party in December with a gift swap, flea market and fish fry. More details next month.

#### **EVENTS**

- Costa de Cocas, Mexico 29 Nov
- Chattooga River trout trip, 13-18 Nov
- Casting Clinic, Picnic Island, 3 Dec
- Big Gun, Picnic Island, 20 Nov
- Hooky at the Hatchery, 9 Dec

#### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

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#### **2016 TBFFC MEETING DATES**

This month's meeting is **2 November** from 0530 to 9 PM.

#### **TBFFC NEWS & NOTES**

Club Flag Project: Patty Anderson has completed our club flag project and we have six flags ready to travel the world on your fly fishing adventures. You can check out a flag at any meeting for your travels. Just promise to take a picture showing your location and a great catch on the fly if possible. Our flag traveled to the Rio Negro River in the Amazon with myself, Buddy Stokes, and Capt. Frank Rhodes. Frank is pictured below deep in the jungle with a peacock.



**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. **See page nine for this year's poster.** 

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 <a href="mailto:captfranksnookon@tampabay.rr.com">captfranksnookon@tampabay.rr.com</a> to reserve your spot.

**Don Coleman Memorial Tournament 18 Dec.** 

The Suncoast, our sister club in St will host this event at Ft Desota. They will have a chili cook-off and \$100 for the longest fish.



#### **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.

Casting Clinic on Picnic Island 3 Dec. Please join us for this casting clinic hosted by Capt. Pat Damico. Pat and club members to include Dayle Mazzarella, Steve Parker 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. Come along and fine tune your casting and we will provide lunch and drinks. Please note 3 Dec is a new date moved from November.

Loomis Fly Rod Repair - After breaking my Loomis NRX rod in the Amazon I sent it in for repair and asked for quick service as I was off to Mexico in two weeks. They responded a few days later and I had a brand new rod in one week. Great service at no additional cost to me. Kudo's to Loomis for a great product and service to back it up. //Walt





#### **Tips for TBFFC**

#### **An Introduction to Basic Fly Casting Techniques**

Casting with a fly rod is an art form that can be both challenging and incredibly rewarding. It takes patience and practice to achieve mastery, but learning doesn't have to be difficult. With an understanding of a few basic principles and some open space to practice, even a beginner can quickly become a confident caster.

This tip comes from the website below. It lays out the fundamentals of fly casting with both pictures and words. Check it out to go over or re-fresh your knowledge of fly casting. Learning and applying sound fundamentals will advance your fly casting skills and enjoyment. https://www.fix.com/blog/basic-fly-casting-techniques/

#### RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE TYING BENCH

#### **Don Coleman**

FLIES FOR THE WINTER GRASS FLATS — During the winter months in the Tampa Bay area, most of the mature baitfish have migrated to spawn, leaving crabs, shrimps, and small baitfish for the resident game fish to feed on. Use small flies tied on small hooks. Try a small Merkin for a crab imitation, a small Hackle fly (Sea Ducer) for a shrimp pattern, a small Clouser in Brown over yellow with small bead chain eyes, and a yellow over white Bendback for baitfish imitations—one of Carl Hanson's Glass Minnows comes to mind, as does Jack Gartside's Soft Hackle Streamer

# Fly of the Month Dale Garcia's Jingle Bell

#### Materials

Hook - Gamakatsu SL11-3H, size 8
Eyes - X small lead and EP Crab and Shrimp eyes
Thread - Flat waxed nylon
Body - EP Brush Hot Pink/Yellow
Wing - Yellow EP fiber
Antenna - Black Krystal Flash
Bright Antenna - Orange Sililegs



- Wrap hook to bend and wrap back to tie in lead eyes about 1/8 inch from hook eye.
- Tie in crab and shrimp eyes on backward so they are about even with the bend of the hook.
- Tie in two strands of black flash so they extend about two inches past the hook bend.
- Tie in the two strands of Sililegs so they are about the same length as the flash.
- Tie in the brush starting between the hook bend and the point and wrap it forward, tying it off between the lead eyes and the hook eye.
- Invert the hook and tie a wing of EP fiber that extends about 1/2 3/4 inch past the hook bend.

## The BIG GUN SHOOT-OUT

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

Sunday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. Picnic Island Park, Tampa (Shelter #611)



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 - 12 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.

#### **CONTACT:** Rick O'Hara (flyguy47@verizon.net)

Please let us know if you are coming by 11/13 so we can order adequate food and beverages

## The FloridaCouncil of the International Federation of Fly Fishers presents the

# 2016 Fly Fishing Expo



Known world-wide for his guiding skills and fly-tying techniques that have caught trophy muskies, smallmouth bass, brown trout, and striped bass.



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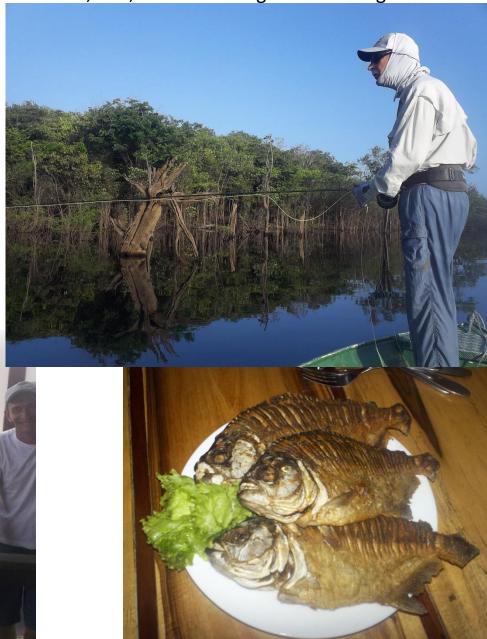
- Programs for Women & Kids
- Free programs & seminars
- Fri. reception & Sat. banquet
- Raffles, silent auctions, live auctions & much more.

For more information go to www.IFFF-FLORIDA.ORG





**Amazon pictures:** Walt with a barred peacock, Frank casting toward the trees, grilled piranha and our lady fisherman, Lisa, who was a big hit with the guides.



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. Check a flag out at any meeting to share your photo with club members.



Patty Anderson with a wild brown on the Cache La Poudre River in Colorado near Ft Collins.



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

Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain's Corner. A strong outgoing tide before daylight is perfect for fishing lighted docks and bridges. Snook, trout, redfish and baby tarpon feed actively on baitfish attracted to the lights by plankton, their favorite food. Match the baitfish size exactly using white fly patterns. Use a shock tippet of 30-pound fluorocarbon for snook and small tarpon. Low and negative tides are perfect for tailing redfish on very shallow flats. Either wade or pole the boat into casting distance, but remove your previous fly and shock tippet. A long 15-pound tippet with a size 4 crab pattern that matches the bottom will produce. As the tide comes in, trout and snook will join the redfish, so change to your dock light setup with a size 1 chartreuse over white Clouser minnow. It lets you cover more water; the hook pointed up avoids weeds and grass.

**Kayak guide Neil Taylor** reports the action, typical for this time of year is accelerating. Good trips have evolved into great trips with much larger fish more active than they were several weeks ago. For the Fly Angler world record pompano are a reality. These are the biggest pompano in years and some of them are extremely large. With gold or yellow flies, sunk down to the right depth, a fly angler could surpass the existing world records. Redfish are great option and trout are becoming easy. If you haven't been fishing, now is the time to go.

**Walt Durkin** reports while fishing MacDill on in mid-October he caught another snook out of a school of tailing reds. However, a second school of tailing reds yielded a nice red of about 4 pounds on a yellow popper. Fishing will continue to improve as the water cools. Fish the low, morning tides on the new or full moons. Fishing will be especially good with North or Northeast winds following a front. Fish will be bottomoriented and small crab or shrimp patterns will work best.

Club member **David Eddy** reports Sept 9th turned out to be his most successful fly fishing day to date. In about 90 minutes he caught 4 pompano and stopped counting ladyfish (best line handling trainers I've found) at 15. Not exactly a tarpon, trifecta or bonefish on the flats, but another small step up the saltwater fly fishing ladder - and I had a blast.

**Capt Rick Grassette** reports as the water cools this month there will be many changes. You may find blues, Spanish mackerel and pompano mixed with trout on deep grass flats of Sarasota Bay. You should also find larger trout in skinny water along with reds. Snook will stage around bars and on shallow flats as they make their move towards winter areas. Action in the coastal gulf with Spanish mackerel, blues, false albacore, tripletail and more will explode!

You'll find snook staging around docks and bridges in the ICW, along sand bars and in potholes on shallow flats. They may be along mangrove shorelines when the tide is high. Small white flies, like my Grassett Snook Minnow, should work well around dock and bridge fender lights. Wider profile flies like Lefty's Deceiver or EP flies should be good choices for snook in shallow water. Fish the strongest tides for the best action. I like the flats of north Sarasota Bay and the ICW between Sarasota and Venice for snook in November.

Reds will spread out on shallow grass flats in November. You'll find them along bars, in potholes or around docks. Look for them along mangrove shorelines when the tide is high, but they are just as likely to be roaming with mullet schools in shallow water. Fly anglers may score with lightly weighted flies, such as a Clouser or my Grassett Flats Minnow fly, fished on a 12' leader with a floating fly line. I catch a lot more reds wading than I do from my boat, so keep a low profile.

You may also find big trout along with reds in shallow water this month. The same flies that you use for snook and reds in shallow water will also work for trout in shallow water. You'll also find trout on deep grass flats in water from 3' to 7' deep. I like to drift and cast ahead of my drift with weighted flies, like Clousers or my Grassett Deep Flats Bunny, on sink tip fly lines to locate trout. In addition to making a series of drifts to find fish, look for baitfish on the surface or birds to find them.

You may also find blues, Spanish mackerel, flounder or pompano on deep grass flats this month. Ultra Hair Clouser flies are a good choice for any of these species. The techniques to find them is the same as for trout, although blues and Spanish mackerel may feed on the surface making them easier to find. Likewise with pompano, that may skip on the surface when you run or drift past them. You'll need to add wire or heavy fluorocarbon when toothy fish are around to keep them from biting you off. You may find flounder on a mixture of grass and sand, particularly on the edges of bars or in potholes.

## **2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Don Coleman Classic at Ft Desoto

•	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 Cancelled
•	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
•	Dec 3	Casting Clinic on Picnic Island
•	Nov 20	Big Gun Shootout, Picnic Island
•	Dec 9	Play Hooky at the Hatchery

Dec 18

#### **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

Capt. Nick Angelo

- •80-page Beginner's Basic Skills Instruction Manual
- Annual Banquet

#### **Fly Fishing Guides**

(813) 230-8473

Capti Mon / mgcio	(013) 230 0173
<ul><li>Capt. Pat Damico</li></ul>	(727) 504-8649
•Capt. Bryon Chamberlin	(813) 361-8801
<ul><li>Capt. Rick Grassett</li></ul>	(941) 923-7799
<ul><li>Capt. John Hand</li></ul>	(239) 842-7778
<ul><li>Capt. Frank Rhodes</li></ul>	(863) 967-4258
<ul><li>Capt. Greg Peterson</li></ul>	(423) 432-1973
<ul><li>Capt. Russ Shirley</li></ul>	(727) 343-1957
<ul><li>Capt. Keiland Smith</li></ul>	(863) 944-7475

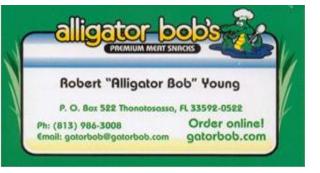
#### Fly Casting Coaches

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#### **Corporate Sponsors**

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

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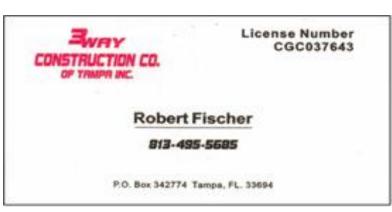


#### Captain Floyd Holder



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