



**Next meeting 7 January
0600 PM to 0900 PM**

Speaker and Tyer: Captain Pat Damico

A Smooth Transition from Fresh-to-Saltwater or Salt-to-Freshwater Fly Fishing

Did you bring your fly fishing equipment from somewhere else to Florida and haven't used it yet? Are you new to either? What are the similarities and what are the differences? Want to bone up on redfish, bonefish, tarpon; how does it differ from freshwater trout? Capt. Pat is your guy. Pat is a professional saltwater guide who guides mostly the Tampa Bay area. He is an IFFF Master Casting Instructor who has been fly fishing and fly tying since he was 10 years old. He is an author, moderator, speaker and a Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Area Coordinator for six years. Pat fly fishes South America, Bahamas, Caribbean, Mexico, Canada, U.S. east coast and mid-west. Contact Capt. Pat at www.captpat.com or pat4jaws@hotmail.com

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.

JANUARY 2015 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to January and a new year. I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season with friends and family and even found a little time for fishing.

Thanks to all who contributed to our Holiday Party. We exchanged gifts and shared food and fellowship. Special thanks to Lance, Robert, Frank and Alligator Bob for the super grunts, grits and hush puppies!

Board member Denise Bruner started a 2015 club calendar, which I added to the newsletter. Please help us update it with items of interest. Provide ideas at a meeting or you can email me at Waltdurkin@aol.com.

We will collect annual club dues (\$25 for singles) starting in January. Please send or give payment to our treasurer, Rick Valari at the next meeting.

// Walt Durkin



EVENTS

- Annual Shad outing to the St John's – **16-18 Jan Sign up at the next meeting.**
- Annual club banquet – 8 Mar

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin	813-476-7128
Vice President: Ted Hagaman	813-920-8473
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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 7 Jan from 6 to 9 PM followed by 4 Feb and 4 Mar. Please watch this space for any changes

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

12 DEC: Play Hooky at the Port Manatee Hatchery Report. Club members enjoyed another great outing at the hatchery. Gina Russo hosted us with her usual enthusiasm and insights. We fished their salt water retention pond and hooked and landed about six baby tarpon from 5 to 8 pounds. The fish were rolling occasionally and hit our flies readily. The hatchery kept all our tarpon for transfer to the new Sea Life Orlando Aquarium coming in the Spring of 2015. Gina offered a lecture and tour of the facility from 1000 to 1200 followed by an excellent lunch provided by club member Alligator Bob. One of the scientists demonstrated how they monitor fish health by dissecting and examining a small redfish. This is a wonderful program paid for by your fishing license dollars, so keep your license up-to-date. Gina noted the facility will not host future tours inside do to concerns of outside contamination. However, we can still fish and have a talk and tour on the outside. So those who missed it this year can look forward to next Dec, probably on the first Friday.

6 Dec Casting Clinic Report. Thirty fly fishers attended the Casting Clinic at Maximo Park hosted by Suncoast Fly Fishers. The last one was hosted by TBFFC and held at Picnic Island. Dayle Mazarella and Barb were setting up the course at sunup. Some participants stayed until 3 p.m. to take advantage of the individual instruction and insight of the teaching staff, which included John Hand, Leigh West, Steve Parker and Pat Damico. Thanks to all who participated!

Club hats and shirts will be available at the next meeting.



Gina Russo (center) hosted us at the Port Manatee hatchery

Tips for TBFFC: No. 78

Practice Suggestions: Work on Accuracy. Our recent casting clinic with lead Instructor Dayle Mazzarella was another great event. After lunch, we broke up into smaller groups and worked on whatever the particular needs were of each participant. My group wanted to improve accuracy and learn mending techniques. When working on accuracy especially, movements with the fly rod must be consistent. Putting a target 30 feet away and using one hand repeating a pickup and lay down cast should have the practice fly hitting very close to the target. Holding the rod more vertically and lining up your eye with the target helps. When experiencing any casting problems, shortening the distance is always a good first step.

Pat Damico, MCI 

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE TYING BENCH

By C.W. “Don” Coleman

TEACHING -- An instructor can only teach the fundamentals of fly tying. It is up to the student to develop his or her own technique and to turn the fundamentals into an art form. After learning the basic techniques and traditional fly patterns, students should explore any new path that interests them. Don't continue to lean on an instructor and ask them to keep showing you new fly patterns just for the sake of seeing something new. There are no rules in fly tying and there are no fly tying police.

LEARNING -- Knowledge is meant to be shared, and he who is unwilling to learn anything new is already half-dead. Enjoy the mysteries you encounter and celebrate each new discovery along your fly tying journey. The world is a magical place if you are willing to explore new methods and techniques. Negativity is a destructive idea.

Holiday Party Group Shot – photo Kim Redd



Holiday Party Pictures Continued



7 guys having fun



Lance with hush puppy tool



Denise during gift exchange



1 girl, 8 guys and food



Santa with friends

Club Fishing Photo's



Robert Fischer with sheephead caught on Smitty's Golden Eye Shrimp at the Don Coleman Outing



John Nelson with son and son-in law fishing with Capt Jared Simonetti



Nick Colantonio in Dec on his annual Indian River canoe trip



Steve Parker, nice red



Ted Hagaman with 9 ½ lb black drum

Hatchery Photos



Gina Russo showing chart



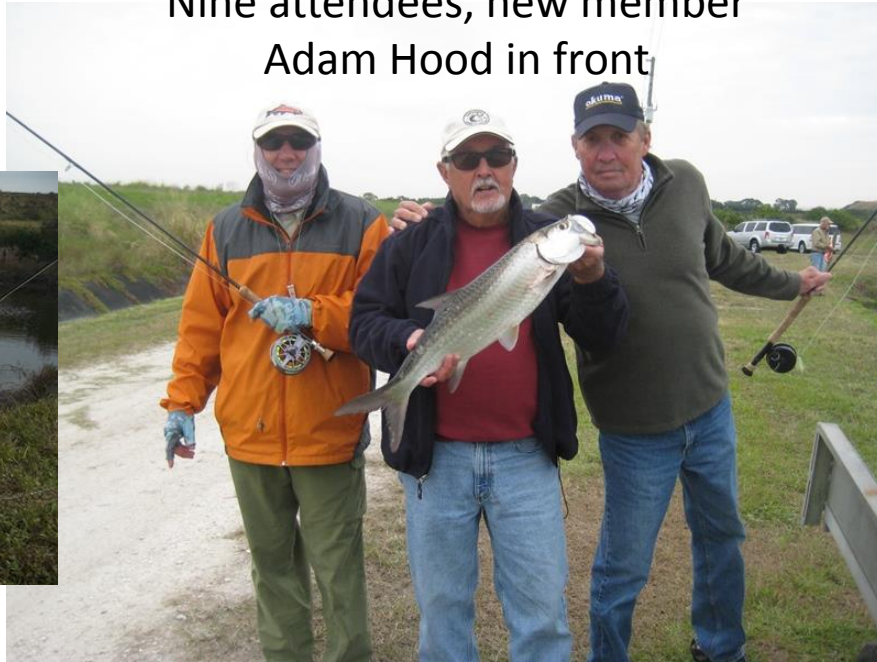
Nine attendees, new member Adam Hood in front



Rick and Kim Redd



Ted Hagaman with nice afternoon Tarpon



Walt, Rick and Lance



Rick O'Hara and Adam

Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Capt Pat Damico provide this report from his **Captain’s Corner**: When fly fishing on weak tides and in cold weather, explore canals. The combination is not a good one, but it can be productive. An early start is usually not necessary. On sunny days, water temperature can vary considerably (as much as 10 degrees between open water and canals and backwater locations) , making a temperature gauge a necessity. Slow tidal flow means water will have an opportunity to absorb the sun's rays longer, especially over dark, soft bottoms, against seawalls, wooden structures and large wooden boat hulls. A sailboat in the back of a canal might reveal a deep-water honey hole. A creek draining into the back of a canal, especially with a spring, will be a hot spot. Fish slow and on the bottom. Floating lines will not be as productive as clear sink tips or full intermediate configurations. Use a 4-foot, 20-pound fluorocarbon leader in clear water and dark-colored weighted flies with hook points up to avoid snags. Brown/orange and black/purple can be very productive color combinations. //Pat 🌅

Capt John Hand reports snook activity has been hot up the Little Manatee River on the incoming tide. Concentrate on shoreline with a southern exposure.

Capt Pat with a baby tarpon caught up one of the canals in Tampa Bay this winter.



2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 14 and 20 Project Healing Waters on MacDill 2-4PM
- Jan 16-18 Shad outing on the St Johns River
- Feb 27 – Mar 1 Tampa Tribune show – Fairgrounds
- Mar 8 Annual Banquet – Hunters Green
- Mar 13 Salty Fly Tournament
- Mar 13 Fly Film Tour only **in Miami**
- May Buchan's Landing Outing
- 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 Carl Hanson Outing
- Nov Big Gun
- Dec Members Year End Party
- Dec Play Hooky
- Dec Don Coleman Outing

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
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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.

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- ALLIGATOR BOB'S Gourmet Alligator Meat Snacks, (813) 986-3008, WWW.GATORBOB.COM
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- REDFISH LANDING GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. John Hand www.RedfishLandingGuideService.com, (239) 842-7778
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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

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Oxfordshire Ct. Brandon, 33510