

The Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club www.tbffc.org

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 7, 2009, 6:00 p.m. Location: Compton Park Recreation Center, Tampa Palms (See below for Directions)

Invited Speakers Rick and Nanette O'Hara

Patagonia: Fishing Beneath the Southern Cross

Longtime TBBFC members Nanette and Rick O'Hara will take us on a photographic journey through central Patagonia, where they joined fellow club member Pat Damico for an unforgettable fishing adventure earlier this year with Esquel Outfitters. In addition to fabulous fishing for wild rainbow and brown trout, the travelers enjoyed incredible food and wine, warm hospitality, spectacular scenery and wildlife (including the famed Andean condors), the vibrant sophistication of Buenos Aires, and the world's best ice cream. Viva Argentina!

Featured Fly Tyer Layne "Smitty" Smith



Smitty is one of the Bay area's premier fly tyers. He started tying when he was 6 years old and got serious about it in the early 60's. That's when he got involved in a tying clinic run by a crotchety old cuss by the name of Carl Hanson. From that time until Carl's passing they collaborated on many variations of panfish flies as well as a number of salt water patterns.

Since then he has created many successful new patterns including the world's best bluegill fly, the Crystal Beetle (an advanced twist on the foam spider). His friends began calling him "Spiderman" because of the incredible success of that one.

Tonight he will be tying a variety of his astoundingly successful flies. Don't miss this great chance to see a master at work. He can be reached at 727-544-0768.

Directions to Our Meetings: **From I-75**---Take Bruce B. Downs exit from I-75; go west 2 miles to traffic light, turn left onto 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

OCTOBER 2009 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all TBFFC members, welcome to October. Hopefully the weather will start to cool down soon.

Well first let us give a BIG THANKS to **Capt. Nick Angelo**, and **Walt Durkin**, our last month's speaker and tyer. Walt tied up some great flies, and Capt. Nick put on a super program on Tarpon fishing in and around Tampa Bay with some awesome pictures.

I hope everyone had a good time at the Picnic Island Park outing, and be sure to thank **John Nelson** for putting this outing together.

The Club also worked a booth at the Florida Sportsman Show at the fairgrounds. I want to thank all of the members that helped out with this show. This is a good thing our club does to help get the word out on Fly Fishing in Tampa Bay.

October brings us to our annual "Carl Hanson" outing with the Suncoast Club at Rotary Park on the Hillsboro River. Please sign up to help our club win the trophy!!!

Nov. will be the Big Gun Shootout, with lots of fun to be had.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

Tight Lines, Neil 🌁





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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS				
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The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 14, at the Bahama Breeze Restaurant

NOT GETTING THE NEWSLETTER? Please call Dick Miekka, Editor, at 727-866-8682 or e-mail to dmiekka@cs.com





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TBFFC EVENTS

2009 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the meeting dates for all of 2009: October 7, November 4, December 2. Please watch this space for any changes.

SWAP TABLE

Last month we had another swap meet with several members bringing items for sale or trade. We will again set up a table at the October meeting, and encourage all members to bring their excess items, or even useable "junk" for a friendly session of bargaining. Bring your stuff and pawn it off on some needy (or gullible) member, and have some fun!

OCTOBER "CARL HANSON" OUTING WITH SUNCOAST CLUB HOSTED BY TBFFC

When: Saturday October 17 2009, 7:00 am until Noon,

followed by lunch.

Where: Rotary Park, Hillsboro River Includes: Great Lunch, Beautiful Trophy Sign up: At the October club meeting.

This annual outing gives us a chance to interact with our friendly rivals across the bay, and to compete for the Carl Hanson Trophy for the most fish caught. TBFFC (Jeff Janecek) currently holds the trophy, after Suncoast held it for 2006 and 2007. Come help us keep the trophy!

It is necessary to have a boat, kayak, or canoe to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Hillsboro River, and to fish for the many pan fish and bass in the river.

For more info call Dick Miekka at 727-866-8682.

FLORIDA FFF CONCLAVE TO BE NEARBY

The Florida Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers will hold their annual Conclave at the Ramada Inn at Celebration on October 23 & 24, 2009. All anglers and guests are invited. The Conclave features over twenty five of the best fly tyers in the world, numerous speakers and programs, casting help from Master Certified Casting Instructors, displays by most of the best fly tackle manufactures in the world, a great bar-b-que and an auction banquet. Cost is \$10.00 per person for one or both days with only the bar-b-que and banquet being extra. See www.fffflorida.org/conclave.htm or email Pete Greenan at captpete@floridaflyfishing.com for more information and reservations. Contact the Ramada Inn by calling 407-390-5800 or 877-467-5786. Don't forget to mention the Fly Fishing Conclave to receive your discounted price.

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

- A day with Bruce Richards has been cancelled. It seems that Mr. Richards has just retired from 3M Scientific Anglers, and seeks only peace and quiet.
- Big Gun Shootout, a traditional casting contest among members and clubs, to be held on Nov.15
- December Outing with Mangrove Club and Suncoast Club at Fort Desoto Park. Mangrove will host.

BILL JACKSON'S EVENTS OF INTEREST

Call (727) 576-4169 for all items listed below. Fly casting clinics each Saturday at 10 AM Fly Tying Clinics; 6:30 PM every Monday for beginners and every Wednesday for advanced tiers.

SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

www.suncoastflyfishers.com

Regular Meetings: 6:30pm on the Third Thursday of each month, **except December**, at Walter Fuller Recreation Center, 7883 26th Ave. N., St. Pete.

MANGROVE COAST FLY FISHERS

www.mangrovecoastflyfishers.com

NOTE: Newer Location for MCFF Club meetings - **Twin Lakes Park.** The entrance to Twin Lakes Park in Sarasota is located on Clark Road, just 1/2 mile east of I-75, on the south (right) side of the road. Contact website above for details and directions.





TIPS FOR TBFFC - No. 16

Tips from Pat, Dave, and Craig

HOW ABOUT AND OFFICIAL PRACTICE FLY?



Tired of practice flies that disappear? Get some colored carpenters chalk cord and cut it into 2 inch pieces, fold over and form loop in middle by making a nail knot with thin mono or wrap with tying thread and whip finish. A drop of head cement will add to the durability. Put tippet through eye and tie an improved clinch knot and practice 'til you have it right! It will look like bottom one after several

casting sessions. I usually have a few in my pocket, so stop me at a meeting for a free "fly."

Capt. Pat Damico

A CASTING FIX THAT REALLY WORKS

Use rubber bands for casting on your wrist. Having a loose or flexible wrist while casting is a big problem. Many anglers give up power and accuracy by having a sloppy wrist. By taking a few mid to heavier weight rubber bands and slipping them over the fighting but of the rod and your wrist will bring awareness to the flexing of your wrist during the fly cast. It is a quick and cheap fix.

Capt. Dave Chouinard

IF YOU FISH FOR TARPON FROM A KAYAK, READ THIS

I learned a lesson on Memorial Day fishing for tarpon from a kayak.

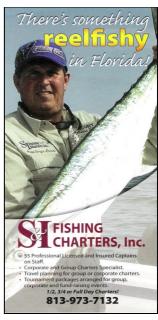
I went out at O dark thirty. I quickly hooked a small (70? #) fish about 100' off the beach. This fish decided to head for Mexico. My kayak is a small sit-in; I couldn't drag my feet (not that I really wanted to with the shark populations at that time of year). This fish would not sound—she was right at the surface—my angle of attack was poor.

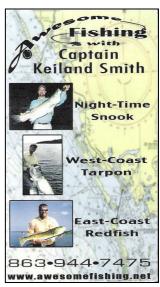
- First, bring along a drift anchor; slow that puppy down.
- Second, turn the kayak sideways; slow that puppy down.
- Third, if you have a rudder, quarter the fish rather than fighting her from directly behind. Be careful not to get the angle too steep, she could flip you.

My GPS said she drug me 5 miles when I touched the leader...

Craig Smothers A







Member Photos



Tony Smith took these photos of the fish fry at our September club meeting. Bob Gaulin, Robert Fischer, Lance Pocock, and Alligator Bob collaborated to produce a yumm-orable event. Members are already calling for a repeat.







Nick Colantonio returned to Alaska's Goodnews River this summer and experienced a repeat of the prolific fishing he experienced last year. Everything was cool, including his TBFFC cap!



David Mullins got this nifty photo of his first ever snook on fly. He was fishing at Picnic Island on an outgoing high tide early in the morning. The wind was up, so he was using a 9wt and battling his canoe. The fly was a green and chartreuse clouser with a little pink and a lot of flash.

Member Photos, continued







The O'Hara duo, speakers-to-be for our October meeting, returned from Everglades City and two unforgettable days of September fishing with Capt. Kevin Mihailoff. As compensation for an early start, they enjoyed a beautiful sunrise, and then caught MANY baby tarpon and backcountry snook.





Fishing day and night, Greg Peterson caught this surprise tripletail on a night river trip for tarpon. Then he helped some of his students gain fishing experience on the open water.







Capt. Bryon Chamberlin has kept up his busy schedule, guiding **Greg Stepanski** for big night snook, going all the way down to Flamingo with **Capt Nick Angelo** (center) and on a day trip for little tunny with **Frank Rhodes** and Nick.

Lloyd and Arlene Grin and Bear It

Alaska called us again. We wanted to see some of the areas we had never seen before and return to Brooks Falls where I could fish with the bears while Arlene took a million pictures of their antics and expressions while fishing.

We started out by making an overnight trip down to Seward but gave up the idea of fishing because of bad weather. On the way back we stopped at Coopers Landing on the Kenai River where we arranged for a float trip. The weather was cold and threatening rain. We caught fish but they were few and far between but it was a beautiful float trip.

We returned to Anchorage and the next day flew to Kodiak Island for three days of fishing and sight seeing. Our flight was delayed because of weather and we arrived in fog and rain around noon, picked up a car and headed out for the several streams and river south of town. Most of the streams had very little water in them. In those that did we could see fish. I stood on the bank of the road and cast into a nice bend. I had a Dolly Varden on immediately. After releasing two I quit because the rain was pouring down.

Another few miles down the road we crossed a bridge and pulled off beside the stream. Arlene was immediately out of the car and went to fish under the bridge out of the rain. As I sat in the car I watched 4 King Salmon spawning in a pool right in front of the car. When Arlene returned I tried to get her to fish for them but the weather had by now cooled her ardor and we headed for town.

The next day we spent a little time exploring a few miles of the roads and looked at the first 100 feet up the hilly terrain. The fog and light rain obscured everything else. In short order we had seen everything there was to see in Kodiak. The next day the ceiling lifted just enough for us to fly out and we headed back to Anchorage and prepared for our trip to King Salmon and Brooks Falls where we would spend time with the bears. At King Salmon we met Mark and Mary Emery who took us to the Blue Fly B&B. It was a very nice place to stay. Mary had arranged it and booked our trip to Brooks for us. We fished the next two days with Mark and caught a variety of fish including Kings, rainbows, Dolly Varden Char and even a decent Pike. We even had some sunshine.

The following 3 days were to be spent at Brooks Falls. The



weather was good and stayed that way for our trip there. Mary had arranged for us to get a choice cabin on a hill looking up the river where you could see bears most of the time

and where I was to fish. Arlene took off with her camera for the falls and left me on a chair watching bears fishing on the river a

half mile away. My next problem would be how I was going to get to the area to fish. When we started this trip I was badly crippled and could only walk with help a few yards. The next day, with Mark's help and Arlene's assistance they got me through bear trails to the river. She had brought a folding stool and a wading staff and I had to use them both frequently. Once in the river I cast to the grass along the far bank and had a follow immediately. After a few casts I hooked the first rainbow who gave us a spectacular show and Mark has to hurry and get it released because 2 bears were coming right at us. Over the next hour I would make 4 or 5 casts, hook a rainbow, hurry to get it

released and agonizingly move back out of the way of the bears as Arlene took pictures. After an hour I was totally done in and we started the arduous



trip back through the bear trails to get me the half mile back to the cabin. I had done it and though I paid dearly for the opportunity again it was worth every bit of it. At 84 with badly crippled shoulders and hips that don't work you take what you can get and appreciate it.

Will we make another trip? Absolutely...if I can. Remember, I expect to live to be 100 and I'm making memories for my old age.

Lloyd Bull A



with Captain Wade Osborne

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FLY OF THE MONTH

Basic Bendback Fly

As Tied by Walt Durkin



The basic bendback pattern is an easy to tie minnow imitation. Tie it in several sizes and colors to fit conditions

Materials:

Hook: For a small pattern of about two inches use a size 6 or 4

hook of your choice.

Thread: Color to match fly materials

Body: Chenille **Wing:** Bucktail

Flash: Krystal Flash or other material of your choice (not too

limp).

Eyes: Optional

- 1. Using pliers, grasp the hook behind the eye and bend about one quarter inch of the hook down away from the point about 20 degrees. Too much of a bend will make hooking fish difficult. The angle of the bend should point to the tip of the hook, so that materials tied on top of the hook cover the point as they go back.
- 2. For a chartreuse and white fly, use either color thread and start at the eye and wrap back to the bend.
- 3. Tie in body material of your choice (flat white or small white chenille) at the back and bring it forward to the bend and tie off.
- 4. Next, use white bucktail for your wing, and tie in a sparse bunch about two inches long on top of the hook.
- 5. Now add a little flash of your choosing on top of the bucktail.
- 6. Then, tie in a sparse bunch of chartreuse bucktail on top of the flash to finish the wing. Be sure all of the wing materials are on top of the hook.
- 7. Finally, build up the head with your thread for a neat appearance.
- 8. Glue or paint on eyes if you so desire.

You can also tie in lead wire along the hook shank at step 2 in order to make the fly run a little deeper, or add dumbbell eyes at the point you bent the hook for a "clouser" style bendback.

Bendbacks are naturally weedless as they swim hook point up and the wing covers the hook point. Fish the fly in short quick strips with a pause after two or three strips.



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

Greg Peterson again took two students of his, Jacob a 9th grader and Parker a 7th grader. They went with Greg's friend Randy Knight. They were all rewarded with catches of Bonita on a fly. They also had to ward off 2 sharks. Greg also went out on a evening hunt for tarpon and ended catching two triple tail.

Nick Angelo also went snook fishing and ended catching several Bonita on a toad fly pattern.

Capt. Rick Grassett took a week and went to Montana with friends and clients. They met a Crane Meadow Lodge and fished the Madison, Ruby, Jefferson, Big Hole and Beaverhead rivers. Everyone got in the action and caught nice brown trout and graylings. Browns caught were up to 24 inches. On the 4th of September, fishing with a client from Colorado had a great day with snook early under docks in Siesta Key. Later that day they caught trout to 23 inches, blue fish to 3-pounds, ladyfish, jacks and mangrove snapper in Buttonwood Harbor using an Ultra Hair Clouser fly.

Received an email from **John and Joan Willis**, members who spend the summer traveling the North Georgia mountains. They traveled to southwest North Carolina and fished the Fires Creek and caught brook trout on flies that he is tying and creating. They also joined the Blairsville, Ga. Chapter of Trout Unlimited and are enjoying meeting new friends and fly fishers. They will be back for the November meeting.

I finally broke down and took my little Gheenoe to Cockroach Bay today, the 15th and did okay. Caught 10 trout to 22 inches, one baby gag grouper and a couple of ladyfish. Went back the 22nd and caught several trout only 1 keeper and a 19in mackerel. I'm loving it.

Rick and Nanette O'Hara spent a weekend at their cabin in Everglades City in the pursuit of snook. The bite wasn't great but they managed, after a lot of effort, to catch some snook and jump one tarpon each.

The month of October is a month of transition I'm told. That should not keep avid fly fishers from venturing out. Let me know how you all do.

Tight Lines, Bob
Rjgaulin@yahoo.com
813-293-6561



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, plus enriching experiences.

- Monthly Meetings with Famous Speakers
- Fly Fishing Outings
- 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
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