



The Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

www.tbffc.org

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 06, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

Special Guest Speakers

Capt. Rodney Smith

Rodney is a Florida native, conservation advocate, and lifetime angler, who has an in-depth understanding of the economical and environmental impacts of recreational fishery.

Married thirty years, father of four, and community leader, for fifteen years Rodney has been the publisher of *Coastal Angler Magazine*, which focuses on nation wide fishing, boating and conservation. *Coastal Angler Magazine's* motto is, "Use, don't abuse our waterways!" The magazine has recently greatly expanded its distribution from 15,000 to 350,000 regional copies per month, including Hawaii.

Rodney will be presenting his power point presentation, *Next Generation*, at our April meeting.

Featured Fly Tier

Logan Valeri ---- and You

Logan Valeri, a resident of Brandon, has been fly tying for over a year now. He learned all of his techniques on his own and specializes in trout flies. Although busy with schoolwork at Jesuit High School, Logan spends every other moment he has tying flies. He has a sponge for a brain and learns all the techniques the members have to offer. This month Logan will tie another classic trout fly. Techniques in will be discussed as well as ways to tie at a faster pace.

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

APRIL 2011 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello TBFFC members,

Well, March will come in like a lamb, but went out like a lion -- with tornado warnings. The waters are reaching their ideal temperature range for catching our local flats fish, so get out there and bend a rod!


Attendees at our March meeting were treated to an excellent presentation by **Capt. Joe LeClair**. Joe was also our featured fly tyer for March.

Thanks to **Steve Parker** for once again hosting a successful tutorial clinic for both beginning and more experienced fly casters.

Thanks also to the hard working directors and other club members who brought us another excellent club banquet. Special thanks to **Walt Durkin** for organizing the event.

Please remember that there will be a showing of some new fly fishing videos following an informal group dinner on the day after our April meeting. Details are given on page 3.

While reviewing page 3, make a mental note to bring a personal check to our May meeting so that you can pay for the new club shirts that you can order at that time.

Tight Lines, Dick 

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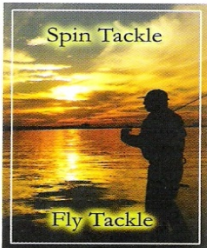
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The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 9 at Walt Durkin's home.



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



The Fly Guy

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TBFFC EVENTS

2010 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the meeting dates for 2011; March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7 **Please watch this space for any changes.**

DINNER AND A SHOW FOR TBFFC

A new set of fly fishing movies will be shown at the Tampa Pitcher Show theatre on Thursday April 7 at 6:30 or 7:00pm. Discounted price tickets are available at Tampa Bay on the Fly, 4203 El Prado, Tampa before the event. Tickets at the door, if available, will be \$3 more (probably \$15).

Members can meet for dinner before the movie at the Tilted Kilt Pub at 14457 N. Dale Mabry. The restaurant is 1/8th mile south of Ehrlich Rd. on the east side of the street. It is also directly across the street from the Pitcher Show so it will be easy to make the movie on time if we meet at 5pm or so.

ORDER YOUR CLUB SHIRTS IN MAY

If you would like to order a fishing shirt embroidered with our club logo, please come to the May meeting and select the ones you want from the Cabela's Catalog. Prices vary, but the shirts generally cost \$20 to \$50, depending on the brand.

The club will pay to have our logo added and for postage plus any tax. You can also get your name added to the shirt for a nominal charge. We will be ordering a supply of club caps which you may purchase in June. If you want a special cap, we can order that for you at the May meeting.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to order a shirt, please go to the Cabela's web site and choose the shirt type, color, and size that you want and mail the information, along with your check (made out to TBFFC) to Dick Miekka, 6735 14th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33705. The order will be placed with Cabela's on or around May 13.

Dear Florida Fishing Clubs,
Tides and Hides Outdoor Events LLC is hosting the first 2011 Spring Redfish Classic in Tampa, FL on April 7th & 8th of the 2011 year. Held at the Westshore Yacht Club, the 2011 Spring Redfish Classic is a fishing tournament for the everyday recreational angler. The whole purpose of the tournament is to bring fishing fanatics together to help raise money for Blessings in a Backpack. This nonprofit organization helps to feed children by sponsoring

schools throughout the United States as well as in Canada and Columbia. For more information on this nonprofit organization, visit them at blessingsinabackpack.org.

For more information on the 2011 Spring Redfish Classic, visit thoevents.com, which will be up and running in a matter of days. You can find out more about the tournament by visiting the 2011 Spring Redfish Classic on Face Book.

Email Alex at thoevents@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like more information about the 2011 Spring Redfish Classic.

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.

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TIPS FOR TBFFC – No. 34

Casting Tip for TBFFC: 17

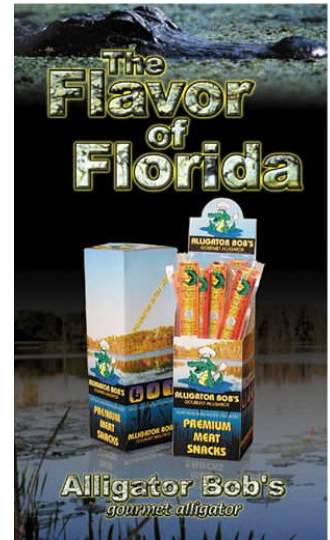
I notice some excellent casters stand differently when casting, is there a right stance?

Your physical makeup will often dictate what stance is more comfortable for you. Placing your casting side foot back is common in saltwater casting because it allows you to use your body to assist in casting with heavier equipment and longer distances. The longer the cast, the further back your foot is placed. Much less stress is on your shoulder, elbow and wrist. Tilting your rod away from vertical and more horizontally also can be more comfortable. This position is the only one that allows you to easily watch your backcast which is most helpful in diagnosing casting problems.

Pat Damico, MCI 🌅

More Miscellaneous Tips (Worth a Try)

1. **Liquid that doubles as bug killer...** if menacing bees, wasps, hornets, or yellow jackets get in your home and you can't find the insecticide, try a spray of Formula 409. Insects drop to the ground instantly.
2. **Hunt's Tomato Paste boil cure:** cover the boil with Hunt's Tomato Paste as a compress. The acids from the tomatoes soothe the pain and bring the boil to a head.
3. **Balm for broken blisters...** to disinfect a broken blister, dab on a few drops of Listerine, a powerful antiseptic.
4. **Vinegar to heal bruises...** soak a cotton ball in white vinegar and apply it to the bruise for 1 hour. The vinegar reduces the blueness and speeds up the healing process.
5. **Quaker Oats for fast pain relief...** it's not for breakfast any more! Mix 2 cups of Quaker Oats and 1 cup of water in a bowl and warm in the microwave for 1 minute, cool slightly, and apply the mixture to your hands for soothing relief from arthritis pain. 🌅



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Member Photos, April 2011



Robert Fischer got all bent out of shape (left) when he failed to catch kingfish on a recent outing, but not bent enough to keep him (center) and **Lance Pocock** (right) from catching some nice grouper.

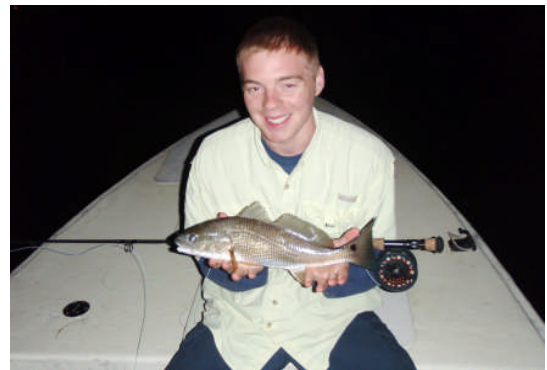


Jeff Janecek sent in these pictures to prove that at least some people caught fish at the recent shad outing, and at least some of the fish were shad!



Pat Damico (above) claims that **Bryon Chamberlin** can lead you to redfish and figure out how to catch them every time.

Greg Peterson continues to make his students (right) avid fly fishermen, with both daytime and nighttime fishing trips



April 2011 Photos, Continued



Our 2011 Banquet produced lots of happy faces, and some serious silent auction prowlers. (Photos by Denise Bruner)

WANT LARGE TROUT? GO SHALLOW!

By Capt. Pat Damico

Reprinted from Onshore-Offshore Magazine, January 2011, pgs 20-21

During one of our recent winters I wrote an article, "Get Flies Deep For Big Fish." The information in that article was about techniques to allow a slow, deep presentation so that lethargic predators can have an easy meal placed at their level. Sinking tip fly lines and weighted flies were emphasized. A couple weeks ago I had to use this approach to catch some backwater snook that were under the influence of an early, long cold spell. The sudden and lasting nature of this period demanded this approach. Now we have a warming trend that began a few days ago and will be with us for a while. My flats boat, which I had been trailering to warmer water, was finally put in lower Tampa Bay and I was out with a client who was anxious to break in his new eight-weight fly rod. Our day started at eight in the morning to take advantage of the low tide, which would soon change to incoming. Tailing redfish were our first target, but the first couple of flats showed no shallow water activity. As the tide began to come in some trout and ladyfish began to be active and we got numerous hookups on the deeper edges of the flat, but most of the trout were small. By noon it was really warm and small trout and ladyfish were keeping us busy. Most of these fish were caught in four feet or so of water, over grass, with deep, slow retrieves.

A flat that during warmer weather had produced some large trout was our next stop. This flat begins as a long sand bar paralleling the Inter-Coastal Waterway and was probably the result of the original dredging operation. We began fishing the deeper grass edge and decided to cast our flies toward the bar in grass that was only covered by about a foot of water. When I

passed it earlier this flat was high and dry and the low seventies temperature from a warm sun had heated it considerably. I switched to a floating weight forward fly line and an orange/silver seducer pattern with a weed guard. The largest trout we had seen all day greeted my second cast. The fish jumped on that fly like it hadn't eaten in a month. As we drifted and cast to the shallow grass, numerous large trout repeated this action.

You may have heard that large trout are loners, that is, not in schools the way smaller trout are usually found. While this is true, the large trout we caught were spaced out but were all at the same shallow depth. Casts to the deeper side of the boat were rewarded with small trout and ladyfish. The lunkers we found that day were in the shallows. I didn't see any evidence of baitfish, and this time of the year I usually use patterns more crab and shrimp-like. My client was using a Seducer in yellow and red. The shallow was a little cloudy from wave action by weekend boaters. The combination of brown over orange is also one of my favorite cold weather flies. If we had anchored the boat and walked on the shore in wading shoes while casting to the shallow edges, this would have worked very well. This time of year, waders and wading shoes are always in my boat. While clients are often reluctant to do this, a slow meticulous approach on foot can be very rewarding.

When fishing, learn to be flexible. If you've put your gear away until spring you are definitely missing a great time to fish. Certain areas will adapt themselves better to this approach. Head out when the tides are low. A lot of scouting can be done from your car with a pair of binoculars. Versatility will reward you with many pleasant surprises. 🌅

FLY OF THE MONTH **Shad Clouser Minnow** *As Tied by Jeff Janeczek*



Materials

Hook: Sharpened no. 6 Mustad standard hook

Weight: Medium dumbbell eyes.

Thread: White

Tail: Gold Angel Hair plus marabou colors of choice (orange, white, chartreuse, etc.)

Body: White cactus chenille

Tying Instructions

1. Tye on 1/16th thick, 1 ½ long gold angel hair. Wrap thread just into the hook bend
2. Tye on medium lead eye, 1/4 back from hook eye, with barb facing down...Work thread back to hook bend.
3. Wrap chenille or equivalent up to eye.
4. Flip over and tye on more gold flash.
5. Wet marabou 2 inches long, 1/8th thick..Tye in front of eye.
6. Dunk fly in water, trim to a tapered finish.
7. Apply glue after fly dries.

Fishing the Shad Clouser

If express sinking line is not used, wait one whole minute before retrieving intermediate sinking line. I use an 8wt with a 9:00 to 5:00 casting arc. A sharpened hook and a quick hook set are required for the shad. This fly also caught shiners, specks, bass, and stripers at our outing.

Fishing Report and Forecast ***“What a great time to go fishing!”***

Here we are in April already. If the wind lets up, April should be a good fishing month for flyfishers. Hopefully that will bring me more catching reports. So here we go with what I’ve received this month.

From my every month regulars **John and Joan Willis**, John caught a 17” fat trout and a small mangrove snapper on the Chas River using a sparse chartreuse clouser. Both John and Joan also have caught small bass and bream on the Rainbow River using small streamer made of felt that John tied.

Leigh West reports redfish have been spotty and finicky but he did sight fish a red before the clouds came in and made it impossible to sight fish.

David Mullins sent this fresh water report. Caught a bunch of large bluegill (eating size) in Alligator Lake south of Safety Harbor; fishing late afternoon from a canoe using a small blue top water popper next to the shoreline reeds.

Craig Smothers reports he had his first shot at a tarpon the week of March 13 in Pine Island Sound. Catching a ladyfish a tarpon came up behind it but did not eat it. A few trout were caught on the same trip.

Lastly **Capt Rick Grasset** reports client from Michigan caught a very nice red on a Grasset flats minnow in Sarasota Bay. Another client from Delaware caught a big trout on a Grasset Flats Bunny fly in Sarasota Bay. **Mike Perez** wading with Capt Rich had good luck landing a very nice redfish in Gasparilla Sound.

Thanks for the above members for taking the time to send me these reports. Keep them coming.

Tight Lines,
 Bob Gaulin
Rjgaulin@yahoo.com
 813-782-8605 🌅



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
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Fly Casting Coaches

Novice or advanced caster, one of the following coaches can assist you with your casting. Contact one convenient to your location to arrange a casting session.

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Your 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

Name: _____ **Rel:** _____

Name: _____ **Rel:** _____

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Annual Dues: \$25.00 Individual Membership
\$35.00 Family Membership
\$95.00 Corporate Single Membership
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\$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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