



**Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 7, 2012, 5:30 p.m.**

### **Invited Speaker**

**Neil Taylor**

Neil is a former professional baseball umpire who moved to the Tampa Bay area in 1993. Eleven years working in pro baseball, with many years as a crew chief, he began his post-baseball fishing career in 2004 becoming a guide in 2005. He has fished Florida waters since 1975 and has concentrated on inshore fishing. Neil has fished exclusively in kayaks since 1998. A guide since 2005, Neil has refined his teaching style that is complete, comprehensive and valuable.

Neil fishes all of Tampa Bay, Clearwater, Dunedin, and Palm Harbor and on up the Nature Coast of Florida's Gulf Coast. Trips cover the entire range of species available in the Gulf and inshore waters. Charters specialize in snook, redfish, speckled trout, flounder and pompano. He also has success catching sharks, cobia, mangrove snapper, bluefish, mackerel, sheephead, black drum and tarpon.

### **Featured Tyer**

**Ron Cavalier**

Ron was raised in Philadelphia and began fishing age 6. He fished the creeks, rivers and lakes for trout, bass, pickerel, walleyes and pan fish within a hundred mile radius while growing up there. He began tying flies at the age of 10. Later he fished the West and East coasts including Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, the Bahamas' and the Cayman Islands. At one point he lost touch with fly tying and then in 1998 began tying once again. Now he ties each day, sometimes 4 hours or more a time.

This time Ron will teach us how to tie his deadly "killer shrimp" pattern, previously a closely held secret known only to a few of the *in crowd* of fly fishers.

**Our Annual Banquet is March 29 (Sign Up Sheet on Pg. 5)**

**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

**MARCH 2012 PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Hello Flyfishers,

Welcome to March and hope you can get out and enjoy the great fishing weather.

Our banquet is this month so look for details herein. We are going back to the Columbia to their special banquet room and are looking forward to good food and camaraderie.

Club members enjoyed another super shad outing in February and we had decent weather with good fishing and food. Thanks to **Rick Fender** and **Nick Colantonio** for feeding us on Friday and Saturday. **Ted Hageman** and I got into stripers and took home five for dinner. The filets were delicious and resembled grouper. Also very hard fighters and we got them on Ted's gurglers on top.

Congratulations to **Bryon Chamberlin** and **Nick Angelo** for winning the Salty Fly tournament last week amid windy, cool weather. **Leigh West** and **Jay Wright** also finished with a nice third place out of 60 teams.

Thanks to **Sam Root**, who ran the Salty Fly and for speaking to us about the tournament and photography last month.

Hope to see you all at the meeting and the banquet.

Tight lines, //Walt 🌅

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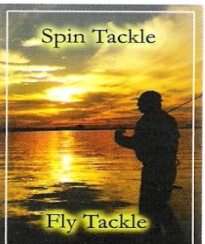
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The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 14, at Walt Durkin’s home.

**NOT GETTING THE NEWSLETTER?** Please call Dick Miekka, Editor, at 727-866-8682 or e-mail to [dmiekka@cs.com](mailto:dmiekka@cs.com)



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## TBFFC EVENTS

### 2010 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the meeting dates for 2012; March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 4?, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5. **Please watch this space for any changes.**

### TBFFC ANNUAL BANQUET SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012

Some of the highlights of our banquet will include:

- A great BUFFET meal
- Cash bar.
- A silent auction where you can pick up anew fly rod, reel, or line, or a fishing trip, artwork, or one of many other items, and not only for fisherpersons, any of which can be yours for peanuts.
- Door prize drawings for several lucky winners

Remember that this is the main fund raising event for the club each year, so the proceeds will come back to you in the form of outings, pizza at our meetings, etc.

**SIGN UP USING THE FORM ON PAGE 5**

### EVERGLADES OUTING WITH SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

The Suncoast Fly Fishers have invited the Tampa Bay Fly Fishers to join them on an outing to Alligator Alley on April 27, 28 and 29. Usually this is a time of low water when the fish are concentrated in a small area so it is not unusual to catch 100 or more fish per day. The hotel for the Alligator Alley trip is La Quinta Inn, 13651 2nd St. N.W. Sunrise, Fl. 33325. Call Gladys at 954-846-1200 and ask for the special rate for the fly fishing club. **The sooner you call, the lower the rate is.** Robert Fischer, 2/8/12. More details will follow

### FUTURE CLUB OUTINGS AND EVENTS

1. Flint Creek has tickets to the April 2012 film tour available for sale. See Capt. John Hand for details.
2. TBFFC will join SCFF on their annual trip to fish the Everglades April 27-29.

### FLY DIVISION @ 2012 CAPT MEL CLASSIC

The tournament date is March 10, 2012. We would love to have your fly fishing friends involved with the event. As it was with the inaugural tournament, it will benefit charity. The format for the fly division will be

the same as the other divisions. Longest redbfish. Longest trout. Grand prize is longest combined inches for one trout and one redbfish. There will be a "bonus species" buy in. The entry fee will be \$40. The optional species buy-in (flounder) is \$5. For each division the longest flounder takes that pool money for the entire division (no 2nd or 3rd place). Everyone in the tournament will get a t-shirt this year. There will be other perks like a meal provided. For the fishing supplies, the fly contestants will get four total flies supplied to them for use in the competition. Three designs and four total. No one will know what those three patterns will be until they pick up their Angler Bag at the March 9 check-in. All the info is posted to [www.capmel.com](http://www.capmel.com)

### SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

[www.suncoastflyfishers.com](http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com)

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

### MANGROVE COAST FLY FISHERS

[www.mangrovecoastflyfishers.com](http://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. 45

### Casting Tip for TBFFC: 28

How important is it to watch my backcast?

On two recent charters, where tailing redfish were our quarry, both clients had considerable difficulty achieving the needed accuracy to properly place the small crab pattern they were using. They both turned to watch every backcast. Once you take your eye off the target, accuracy is impossible. The time to watch your backcast, other than avoiding an obstacle behind you, is when you are practicing casting, not fishing. "Perfect practice," will give you the confidence needed to improve fishing results. This should be on a lawn with a practice line that is very visible and "fly." If during practice you have consistent good loops, your confidence in a fishing situation will be established. A good forward cast cannot be made unless a good backcast precedes it.

Pat Damico, MCI 🌅

### Knotless Tapered Leaders

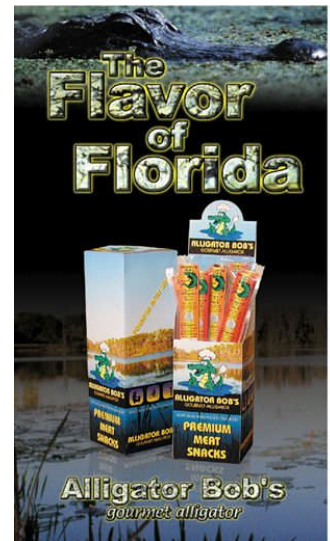
I use them quite a bit, especially inshore saltwater. I like the way they slide through floating grass and rocks without catching. I also like the way they turn over flies. Sometimes I will add a bite tippet and use a blood knot because it can be clipped close and doesn't catch weeds either. I attach my leaders with Don Coleman's Chinese Finger Puzzle method which is also perfectly weedless. For trout and reds I like a 10# or 12# tapered 9' leader, either mono or fluro. If using floating flies, fluro leaders can be a problem because they sink. These leaders last a long time so they are well worth the expense to me.

Robert Fischer 🌅

### Don't Forget Your Flashlight

Always carry a flashlight when traveling, I had to use mine in Patagonia when the power went out due to "lack of wind" to generate the turbines at the Estancia we were staying at. They started up the generator a short time later.

Denise Bruner 🌅



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## TBFFC Annual Banquet and Auction And Membership Renewal

**Date and time:** Thursday, March 29, 2012 at the Columbia Restaurant, Ybor City

**Menu:** A buffet of the Columbia Restaurant's Famous Dishes

**Program:** 6:00-7:30 PM Silent Auction, Hors D'oeuvres and cash bar; .

7:30 PM Dinner and Announcements .

9:00 Closing Remarks, Pick up Silent Auction Items

***Prize Drawings -- Four \$50.00 Outback Steak House Certificates. All Attendees will be entered.***

### A. Order Form for Annual Banquet

Where: Columbia Restaurant,

When: March 29, 2012 @6:00 PM (Dinner 7:30 PM)

**Price: \$40.00 per individual, \$75.00 per couple**

(Please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Evenings)

Number of Guests (including yourself) \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40.00 if single, \$75.00 per couple) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total\*

**Tickets to be picked up at the event**

**\*Note: If you are a guide or vendor donating a trip or merchandise, do not send money now, but check here (\_\_\_)**

**THANK YOU**

### B. Pay your 2011 Club Dues (if not already paid)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Hm. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Please Check: One Year (\_\_\_) Five Year (\_\_\_) Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Single \$25 for one year, \$100 for 5 years; Family \$35 for one year, \$140 for 5 years; Corporate \$95 per year (includes ad in newsletter)*

**Please list names (in addition to your own) that you wish to include in family membership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Total Paid From A and B. above = \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

Please write your Check(s) to "Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club" and pay at the meeting or mail to:

**Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club**

**c/o Rick Valeri, Treasurer**

**1404 Oxfordshire Court**

**Brandon, FL 33510**

## Member Photos, March 2012



### TBFFC Club Member Teams Were Winners in the 3-Day “Salty Fly Super Bowl of Fly Fishing”

At left above, the team of **Nick Angelo** and **Bryon Chamberlin** took first place out of the 65 teams competing in the event.

At right above, the team of **Leigh West** (TBFFC), and **Jay Wright** (Backcountry Fly Fishing Assoc.) took third place in the competition.



### TBFFC Club Members Were Also Winners in the 21-team G Loomis Skiff Casting Challenge

**Colby Hane** and **Dave Chouinard** (left photo) won the Casting Challenge, and each took home a new G. Loomis NRX rod and crystal trophy.

**Nick Angelo** and **Bryon Chamberlin** (where have we heard those names before?) took second place in the Loomis competition, and took home new G. Loomis Pro 4X rods and 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophies.

*Photos by Sam Root*

## Member Photos, Continued



Here are a few grip and grin shots from Patagonia, my friend **Debbie** and I caught fish every where we fished and the weather was great! We were based out of Esquel and San Martin over the Christmas and New Years Holiday. We floated, waded and fished from the banks at a Private Spring Creek. I took tons of pictures of everything from Asada's to Wine bottles. **Denise Bruner 2/20/12**

## FLY OF THE MONTH

### Walt's Wounded Minnow Fly

As Tied by Walt Durkin



#### Materials:

**Hook:** 2x or 3x long hook, size 4, 2 or 1.

**Thread:** Your choice, but I like to use red.

**Spoon Body:** Self adhesive holographic film (order on line or they carry it at On-the-Fly in S. Tampa) in silver or gold

**Tail:** Marabou or polar flash in white or yellow.

**Adhesive:** 5 minute epoxy.

**Drying wheel:** if you have one (or you can buy an electric motor on line and make one for less than \$20 using a piece of Styrofoam for the wheel).

#### Directions:

1. Pinch down barb on the hook and mount hook point-down. With pliers make a slight bend in the hook so that it is slightly concave downwards.
2. Start the thread at the eye and work back to the bend and tie in the tail.
3. Next cut your holographic material into rectangles about one half inch wide and as long as your hook from the bend to the eye. With scissors start at the bottom center of your rectangle and cut an oval shape with points at each end. Peel the release liner off the film, revealing a sticky side that is silver; place this on top of the hook from the eye to the bend. Tie in at the bend with about six wraps over your end point. Lift the body up a little and wind your thread to the eye. Stick the body back down and tie in the body just behind the eye by catching a little of the end of your holographic film.
4. Mix a little of your epoxy, and using a small disposable brush, cover the body on both sides and edges with a generous coat of epoxy. Quickly place on your drying wheel and you are done.
5. I suggest you tie these in batches of at least four as they go fast.

**Fishing:** This basic fly is very light and will fish shallow with a good wiggle. If your body is a little crooked when you tie it in that just adds character to the fly. Use a loop knot and fish this fly in one to four feet of water where it will attract reflex strikes from trout, redfish and snook. This fly is bright and has lots of motion and also easy to cast. When not stripping it should slowing flutter down a little, so give it a couple of good pulls and then let it flutter a little. To weight the fly, tie in lead eyes or a cone-head behind the eye. This will get the fly down, but you will lose a little action. I have also used zonker stripes for the tail, which also work well. Hope you enjoy this fly, which is simple to tie and easy to fish. //Walt 🐟

## Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

MARCH 2012

As a precursor to the shad outing, **Jeff Janecek** and friends fished the St Johns River 2/10/12. Six shad were caught around the bridges and the shad alley entrance. The next day only two shad were caught, but many large specks were caught along with a few bass and bright orange breasted sunfish. The winds blew at 15 to 20 mph along with a cold front made it challenging for the fishing and also catching. Sinking 8 wt line and a slow retrieve were the method for the day along with a #6 chartreuse and pink clouser. Anchoring was a must. An eagle stayed nearby the bridge and many ospreys were flying with shad in their claws.

**Rick Fender** sent a report about the shad outing. He reports that **Ted Hagaman** and **Walt Durkin** had the best success. **Robert Fischer** also had a good day. On Rick's boat **Julian Belisle** caught two shad and **Ed Fisher** got in the action with a couple of crappies. They had an enjoyable day on the water and had great fellowship and food while camping.

**Leigh West** caught 2 shad on his first two casts from shore on Friday, and then caught no more after hundreds of casts on Saturday and Sunday. Nonetheless, our members had a wonderful time, and Leigh rates it as one of our best trips ever.

**Capt Neil Taylor** wrote that the for hot rod bending action, there is a potpourri of species around the bay area with redfish and fat trout supplemented by silver trout, whiting and pompano.

**John and Joan Willis**, our traveling kayak and fly fishers, sent the following report. The Robinson Preserve on the far side of Bradenton is their favorite place to kayak. John caught a small snook and three flounders and keeper that went home for dinner. This Preserve also has a lake and they fished it for the next three days and caught crappies and a catfish using clousers and hoppers and made the hopper s gurgle for their success.

**Denise Bruner** traveled to Patagonia last month and caught more brown and rainbow trout than she could count. It was fantastic, she reports.

**Nanette O'Hara** referred a young man from Idaho to Neil Taylor the kayak guy. Neil reports that this young man was very good at handling a fly rod. He ended catching trout, ladyfish and a very nice pompano.

Tight lines

Bob Gaulin 🐟  
[Waspfly32@gmail.com](mailto:Waspfly32@gmail.com)



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### 2012 member application

#### Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rel: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues: **\$25.00 Individual Membership**

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