



**Next meeting 4 May 2016  
0600 PM to 0900 PM**

**Guest Speakers: Captain's Bryon  
Chamberlin and Frank Rhodes**



Bryon and Frank will present details of their recent adventure to Christmas Island in the Pacific. Bryon is a full-time guide and long-time club member and supporter. Frank is a retired teacher and now spends his time farming and going on numerous "Rhodes to Adventure" with club members. Christmas Island fly fishing has had a reputation as an incredible international bonefishing destination. What most people don't realize is the sheer number of species opportunities that a fly angler can expect during a week, resulting in racking up an astounding number of species on a fly. From big bonefish to three different species of trevally, to a myriad of triggerfish, and even milkfish, there is something new for everyone to check off their list. The interior, back-country islands and ocean-side flats of Christmas Island are a mix of hard white sand, coral, and turtle grass, making Christmas Island truly a saltwater fly anglers' nirvana. Join us for useful details on how to book and enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime trip.

**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.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to May and our warmer spring and summer weather. I hope you have a chance to get out and test our waters.

Thanks to **Nanette O'Hara** for a great presentation on the status of Tampa Bay's grass beds. Nanette took many questions and we learned a lot. The Tampa Bay Estuary Program has made great progress on the health of the bay, but we can all do our part to keep the bay clean and healthy.

Congrats to **Steve Parker** who won the CCA Fly division and to **Lance** for biggest trout of the tournament. All results are posted on page 13.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and you can even try to post your own photo if you so dare!

Bring your fly rods to our meetings now and practice your casting with expert guidance.

Please note my new email: [walt.durkin@aol.com](mailto:walt.durkin@aol.com)

// Walt 

## EVENTS

- Everglades trip, 22-23 Apr
- Captain Mel Classic, 7 May
- Project Healing Waters Bradenton Yacht Club, 14 May
- Lake Calm outing, 4 June

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Pat Damico	727-504-8649
Robert Fischer	813-962-0185
Bruce Anderson	813-960-8523
Rick O'Hara	813-238-6763

## 2016 TBFFC MEETING DATES

This month's meeting is 4 May from 6 to 9 PM.

## TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

**Captain Floyd Holder** has re-joined the club as a guide. He is a retired Optician and has fished Tampa Bay since 1977. He fishes out of a 17' Ankona Cayenne flats boat for shallow water fly and spin angling. Visit his website for more details and an introductory offer:

<http://fishingfloyd.com>.



**Project Healing Waters:** Take a look at this link for an update on PHWs, a program for military veterans our club supports:

<https://www.projecthealingwaters.org/NewsMedia/Announcements/tabid/147/post/with-every-cast-a-new-chance/Default.aspx>

**Saturday 14 May** the Bradenton Yacht Club will host PHW event starting at 0800 and including lunch. Contact Tom at [tom.brinegar@yahoo.com](mailto:tom.brinegar@yahoo.com) if you would like to help with a boat or otherwise.

**IFFF Florida Expo**, 4-5 November, Plantation in Crystal River

**Everglades Outing**, 22-23 April. Twelve club members had a great time at the outing. Thanks to Rick Fender, Ed Fisher, Robert Fischer and Bruce and Patty Anderson for providing local knowledge. Weather was nice on the inside and a little windy outside, but we caught a good variety of fish, which provided dinner on Saturday night. Accommodations included the Everglades City Motel and River Wilderness Resorts, both very nice. River Wilderness is on the water and has a dock and ramp.



## Tips for TBFFC

**How do I strip?:** Next to, "What fly should I use?," this is a very frequent question. On a recent saltwater charter with two clients, they told me about trips made during the last two days where they caught nothing after 6 hours of wade fishing. Stopping the boat in a wind protected area, I asked each one to cast for me. Both were very poor casters, with layouts of line full of slack. Holding the rod tip about 5 feet above the water, when they did strip, the fly never moved. After watching each do a couple casts and "work" the fly, I informed them their clouser minnow did not move in any of their presentations. No fish would show any interest in a baitfish imitation that didn't move. Their stripping to give the fly appropriate action varied considerably. I told them to watch the end of their fly line where it joined the butt section of the leader. Sometime with the tide coming toward us they really had to exaggerate the long frequent strips to give the fly the desired action. Keeping the rod tip on the water also helped reduce slack. **Damico, MCI**

## Random Thoughts from the Tying Bench

By C.W. "Don" Coleman

THE IMPORTANCE OF STRUCTURE – All fish, in freshwater or salt, orient themselves with structure. I have seen research photographs showing a large bowl containing a pod of 3 pound smallmouth bass. The inside of the bowl was painted white. With no structure in the bowl the fish were scattered all over. When a board was placed across the bowl, the fish congregated under the board. When the board was removed, and a pile of rocks were placed in the bowl, the fish all hovered over the rock pile. With both the rocks and the board removed, a black line was painted up the wall of the bowl and the fish all collected around the black line. Look for structure, preferably in a good current flow, to find fish.



**Everglades Outing**  
Our boats deep in the Everglades back country on Alligator Bay; Rick and Ed; Ted and Kathy; Bruce, Patty and Lauren



Robert and Jeff with nice trout fishing the outside islands; Lou and Walt, Lauren and Bruce with a nice trout



Walt and Ted with nice reds at MacDill Flat; a drum and red ready to release



Jack Hexter in Miami during his annual trip to fish with Cap.t Bouncer Smith. Here's a picture of the 29# dolphin he caught that day in 8-10' seas. Not the largest dolphin he's caught but it's certainly the most colorful. They also caught a sail, a big hammerhead shark, a smaller silky shark, a black fin tuna and several bonito



Captain Rick Grassetto guided his clients to a good variety of fish in April

# TBFFC Cookbook Project

## TBFF Cookbook Update

We are getting excited! Our Club is proving its culinary skills as recipes are being submitted for the cookbook. We have some excellent submissions - some of them are noted to be historically authentic. We also have obtained a few family "secret" preparations that we had to threaten to break a rod to acquire! However, we need many more before we take this to publication. Do not miss out in having your recipes included! Encourage your fishing buddy to submit the recipe for that great dish you loved at the Christmas party or the Shad Outing. Email them to [andersonmailbox@gmail.com](mailto:andersonmailbox@gmail.com) or bring them to the next meeting.

We will include your name on the recipe so make sure you provide it. If hand written, please write legibly so we will not make mistakes in deciphering the ingredients, leading to a kitchen disaster! Also be sure to include exact directions, including cooking times, oven temps and specific amounts of the ingredients. Recipes may be for appetizers, outdoor/camp grilling, salads, soups, main courses, deserts, or even drinks!

Depending on the response, we may not be able to include every recipe submitted, and we may not have time to test each of the recipes, so be sure all information to create the special dish is included.

If you have any great pictures of fish or club outings using your recipes, or a favorite fly fishing quote feel free to pass them along as well, to embellish the book.

We would like these sent within the next month, so we can get this project underway, so don't delay and forget or we will be missing out on your culinary finesse!

Send recipes to:

email: [andersonmailbox@gmail.com](mailto:andersonmailbox@gmail.com)

mail: Patty Anderson

11726 Lipsey Road

Tampa, FL 33618



## Fishing Report and Forecast

### “What a great time to go fishing!”

**Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain’s Corner:** Wind lately has been the most detrimental part of our weather. Some members of our fly fishing clubs have been using spin tackle because they felt it was too windy for fly rods. Inexperienced fly fishermen might be better off leaving the long rods for better wind conditions. You occasionally will see someone fly fishing in the wind who seems not bothered in less-than-ideal conditions. If you plan a distant trip, days without wind might be scarce, so learning to deal with wind is important. Keep your loops very tight, meaning the fly rod leg and the fly leg will not only be parallel but will be very close together. Cast very close to the water, holding the fly rod horizontal instead of vertical. Keep your rod, fly line and fly on the downwind side of you in a crosswind. Using a longer rod keeps everything away from you. Use smaller flies that are lightly dressed. Shorten your leader and make it heavier and stiffer than usual. Avoid open-water fishing, find areas where there is protection from islands, trees, buildings and bridges.

**Capt Rick Grassette** reports trout, Spanish mackerel, bluefish and more should be good options on deep grass flats of Sarasota Bay. Look for reds, snook and big trout mixed with mullet schools or cruising shallow flats and edges of bars in backcountry areas of Charlotte Harbor and lower Tampa Bay. Night snook fishing around lighted docks and bridges in the ICW with flies and DOA Lures should also be a good option.

**Kayak guide Neil Taylor** reports he is out there every single day. “This is some of the best fishing I have seen in years. We have a great fishery. Trout are averaging about 17 inches if you know "where to go." We have regularly caught 50 to 100 trout per trip, depending on how much time we spent targeting them. We have a little bit of everything going on. Mackerel, redfish, the trout. The next to come will be the pompano and black drum, something I work in between May and October and do very well”.

**Member David Eddy** reports a major milestone wading Indian Shores beach with a chartreuse clouser - a 15" pompano that stripped off line like a small torpedo.



# Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

## The 4th Annual Saturday at the Crosthwait

Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00am to Lunch

- ❑ Open to every disabled Active Service & Veteran
- ❑ Professional Guides & Boats
- ❑ Equipment provided (fly & traditional)
- ❑ Beginners to Advanced – everyone welcome
- ❑ Captains Meeting / Coffee & Doughnuts 7:00 to 8:00 am
- ❑ Fishing 8:00am to lunch
- ❑ Lunch provided by **the Bradenton Yacht Club**
- ❑ **4307 Sned Island Road, Palmetto, FL 34221**
- ❑ **Information; Mike Reeves 813-340-5510**

Awards After Lunch 2015

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc.™ is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.

# 21st Annual CCA Sarasota “Photo All-Release Challenge” and BBQ Dinner

The Sarasota chapter of Coastal Conservation Association recently hosted their 21st annual “Photo All-Release Challenge” fishing tournament on April 22nd & 23rd, 2016. This year’s tournament was a huge success in large part to Mote Marine who graciously donated the use of their Theatre Room as the tournament headquarters.

Tournament Divisions included Grand Slam (largest snook, redfish and trout), Angler (most inches per species), Largest Fish (each species), Lady Angler (largest fish, each species), Fly Rod and Youth. This year’s tournament, which raised money for CCA’s conservation projects, also featured an upscale raffle, a silent auction, live auction and a BBQ dinner on Saturday evening. **Next Year’s tournament is scheduled for April 21st and 22nd.** Please see below for this year’s winners.

- **GRAND SLAM:**
- SCOTT DALTON: 81.5” SNOOK: 30.5” RED: 30.5” TROUT: 20.5”
- SLAM RUNNER UP:
- TONY ZOOK: 76” SNOOK: 26.5” RED: 31” TROUT: 18.5”
  
- LONGEST SNOOK: ANDREW PURCELL 37.25”
- LONGEST REDFISH: CHUCK CRESS 32.5”
- **LONGEST TROUT:** **LANCE POCKOCK** 24”
- TOTAL INCHES OF SNOOK: RC GILLILAND: 110.25”
- TOTAL INCHES OF REDFISH: TIM BAUER 77.5”
- TOTAL INCHES OF TROUT: LONNIE MILLER 177.5”
  
- **RUNNER UP TOTAL INCHES:**
- SNOOK: WILLIAM LUSK: 49”
- REDFISH: DOUG FORDE: 49.5
- TROUT: MICHAEL STEPHANS: 160.25”
  
- **FLY CHAMPION:** **STEVE PARKER:** 23.5” REDFISH
- LARGEST SNOOK FLY: NA
- LARGEST REDFISH FLY: NA
- LARGEST TROUT FLY: MIKE MCADARAGH 15.5”
  
- **LADIES DIVISION:**
- LARGEST SNOOK: NANCY PURCELL: 26.5”
- LARGEST REDFISH: BRIANA BAUGHMAN: 18.25”
- LARGEST TROUT: ALEDIA TUSH: 18.25”

# 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 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 4 Lake Calm Outing
- Oct 1-8 Amazon River Trip
- Oct 8-9 Florida Sportsman Show
- Oct 29-Nov 4 Xcalac Mexico One-Week Trip
- Nov 4-5 IFFF Expo Plantation in Crystal River
- Nov Chattooga River Trip
- Dec Play Hooky at the Hatchery

## 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
- Capt. Greg Peterson (423) 432-1973
- Capt. Russ Shirley (727) 343-1957
- Capt. Keiland Smith (863) 944-7475

## Fly Casting Coaches

### Dade City

Jeff Janecek.....352-588-3866

### South Tampa

Steve Parker.....813-287-5583

### North Tampa

Robert Fischer.....813-962-0185

Dan Lagace.....813-929-6605

Leigh West .....813-971-8697

### 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.

- 3-WAY CONSTRUCTION, Robert Fischer PO Box 342774, Tampa, 33694, (813) 495-5685.
- 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
- CAPT. RUSS SHIRLEY, (727) 343-1957 www.captruss.com
- FLINT CREEK OUTFITTERS, 1502 N. West Shore Blvd., Tampa, 33607, (855)-892-7226, www.flintcreekoutfitters.com
- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 [www.captpat.com](http://www.captpat.com), pat4jaws@hotmail.com
- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grassett, (941) 923-7799, www.snookfin-addict.com
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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

Please make check payable to: Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club C/o Rick Valeri, 1404  
Oxfordshire Ct. Brandon, 33510