



**Next meeting 3 Jun**

**0600 PM to 0900 PM**

**Speaker: Glen Pla**

**“The Average Angler”**

Glen Pla is a local fisherman and TV personality on the Brighthouse Network who is far from average. The Average Angler show spans 14 years of exciting Florida fishing and ol’ fashioned family fun! Over that time, Glen and crew have conquered the wilds of the state’s interiors to fish lakes and rivers as well as brave the wide expanse of the Gulf. Please join us as Glen recounts some of those adventures and offers tips he has learned from many years on our local and state waters.

**Tyer: Jeff Janacek**

We are very fortunate to have Jeff tie for us almost every month. Jeff is a long time member of our club and an avid fresh and saltwater fly fisherman. In our annual fishing contest with the Suncoast Club, Jeff has often brought home the honors for most and biggest fish. He will tie some of his favorite fresh water patterns for our outing on Lake Calm on 13 June.

**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.

## MAY 2015 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Jun and hope you are braving the heat to get on the water and bend a rod. Fish early for your best chances and watch carefully for afternoon thunderstorms and lighting.

Thanks to Brett Fitzgerald for a super presentation on the Snook Foundation. And, thanks to Smitty for tying his Mangrove Snook fly , a sure winner like all of his patterns.

Our club has donated \$200 to both the Snook Foundation and to the Tarpon and Bonefish Trust. These organization are doing important work to understand and sustain these sport fish. You can find them online to learn more and how to donate on your own. Both organizations spoke to the club this year and we look forward to hosting them again.

Thanks to those who contribute to our newsletter. Please email me items of interest any time.

// Walt Durkin 

## EVENTS

- 13 June -Lake Calm (Odessa) Outing. Sign up sheet and directions at the next meeting.
- July Meeting – [Free skin cancer screening and gear swap](#)
- Mexico trip – 17 to 24 October

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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## 2014 TBFFC MEETING DATES


This month's meeting is 3 Jun from 6 to 9 PM followed by 1 July.

## TBFFC NEWS & NOTES


**Club Facebook.** Please visit and like the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club on Facebook to keep up-to-date with club meetings and events. We also share tips about what's biting now, advice on casting and fly-tying, and news about fisheries conservation. And, we love to share your fishing photos, so don't be shy! The Facebook page is also a great way for members to connect with one another and share knowledge about fly fishing. The page is at [Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club](#)

**Project Healing Water Event 16 May.** Bradenton Yatch hosted the event again this year. About 20 veterans attended and had a great time. Club members participated with at least five boats to help out. Our Vet caught a nice snook and enjoyed the day. We look forward to supporting more outings of this nature.

**13 June - Lake Calm Outing.** Join us for freshwater fun on Dr. John Millns' property at Lake Calm in Odessa. The club will provide lunch/drinks and we will fish from 06:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Bring your small boat (Gheenoe, canoe, kayak) or fish from the bank for bass and pan fish on this beautiful, crystal clear lake. Sign up at the next meeting or email me at [waltdurkin@aol.com](mailto:waltdurkin@aol.com).



**CCA STAR Tournament.** STAR anglers will compete for a total of nearly \$500,000 in prizes and college scholarships during the summer long tournament which runs from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend. Entry fees are just \$30 for current CCA members and \$60 for non-members, which includes a one year CCA membership. Have an angler age 6 to 17 that would enjoy participating? CCA New Tide members fish the STAR for free for a chance to win a share of up to \$100,000 in college scholarships. Talk to any of our CCA members for more details.



**The Fieldworkers Club** assists scientists and resource managers in their efforts to research recreational fisheries in lakes, rivers and oceans around the world. Imagine being part of an elite team that ventures out to world class fishing destinations near and far to lend a hand in advancing science while enjoying some of the finest fly fishing on the planet. Then spend an hour or so at the close of each day learning how to become an expert fly angler from the very folks who wrote the books on the sport. Adam Marton invited our club to help out with this project. Find out how at: [www.fieldworkersclub.com](http://www.fieldworkersclub.com).

## Tips for TBFFC

There are over 1000 different fly lines available. Is your rod the problem, your line or both? Assuming you have a good grasp of the essentials needed to make a good cast, spend some time with your fly rod and try different lines. I have had clients ready to discard perfectly good fly rods because the line they were using didn't match the task in hand. I always ask a casting or fishing client to bring their own equipment to see if the system is balanced. Matching the number on the rod with a line is only a starting point. A line that allows a quick short cast with a heavy fly will give disappointing results when casting distance with a light fly. Future tips will explore this further. **Pat Damico, MCI**

## Random Thoughts from the Tying Bench

By C.W. "Don" Coleman

**LEADER KNOTS** – One hundred percent knots break more often than no knots. And knots catch things like weeds. Fish, like humans, see what they are looking for. They ignore large hooks in live bait, exposed hooks in flies, and monofilament leaders. Unless you are fishing dry flies or nymphs, where heavy leaders could disturb the natural drift of your fly, predator fish ignore the leader because they are only looking for food. It makes no sense to taper a leader and then add a heavy shock tippet next to the fly. Get over the trout fishing mentality that demands multi-sectioned, tapered leaders with multiple knots. A straight 20 pound level leader will turn over most flies nicely, even dropper rigs. If your level leader has trouble turning over large, bulky flies, shorten the leader, or use a heavier leader. Use premium grade spinning monofilament—such as Berkley Big Game—for leaders. It will allow the leader to turn over much easier than hard mono. Attach your fly with a Lefty's Loop Knot (Non-Slip Mono Loop Knot.) Loop the butt of the leader to a loop in the end of the fly line, or preferably to a 2 foot link of 30 pound braided monofilament. If you are positive the heavy leader is making fish shy away because of your leader, try changing the angle of presentation, either by changing position or by using a curve or reach cast, so that the fish sees the fly first.

MAXIMS: 90% of imitation is presentation.

Flies don't catch fish, fly fishers catch fish.

"A fly does not have to look like bait; it just has to act like bait." -- Bob Clouser

"It's a mistake to think of an attractor as anything other than a food form."

-- Gary La Fontaine

## Fly of the Month Tied by Smitty



**This is my adaptation of Jim Grace's Mangrove Snook Fly from Lefty Kreh's book Saltwater Fly Patterns.**

**Hook:** Mustad 3407 sizes #2 - 1/0

**Tail:** White bucktail about 2" long (tapered)  
inches long

**Cheeks & Belly:** White Fish Hair (tapered)

**Topping:** 6 strands of Peacock Herl

**Eyes:** 5/32" flat or 3D molded silver holographic eyes

**Weedguard:** (Optional) #1 trolling wire or 20# mono

**Thread:** White Flatwaxed Nylon

**Wing:** 4 to 6 white neck or wide saddle hackle feathers 2 1/2 to 3

**Flash:** 4 strands of Krystalflash and 3 strands of micro Flashabou

**Head:** White Flatwaxed Nylon (built up)

**Coating:** UV Resin

**Step 1:** Base wrap hook shank. \*NOTE If using a weed guard, tie in as you do this step.

**Step 2:** Measure and tie in bucktail at hook point.

**Step 3:** Tie in 2 or 3 hackles on each side, tented\*\* over bucktail. (Flatten stems to help feathers stay positioned correctly).

\*\* Tenting the wing is tying the hackle feathers in at 11 o'clock and 1 o'clock positions on the hook shank. When looked at from either end of the fly, the feathers should assume this shape “^” over the bucktail.

**Step 4:** Tie in Krystalflash at its mid-point and extend back on either side of fly... Repeat with Flashabou.

**Step 5:** Tie in small bunch of Fish Hair (tapered) on both lower sides of hook as cheeks and belly.

**Step 6:** Tie in Peacock Herl topping (same length as wing).

**Step 7:** Build up thread head and apply eyes.

**Step 8:** Coat head with Softex (or epoxy). Let dry then recoat head with Sally Hansen's Hard As Nails.





Top left: Lynn Skipper with a redfish caught with Capt John Hand in the Everglades. Left: Rick Fender with a 10 Thousand Islands snook. Walt with a Tampa Bay snook.

## Fishing Report and Forecast

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

**Capt Pat Damico provides this report from his Captain’s Corner:** Best fly rod fun for snook is now. Our west coast beaches are enjoying an explosive return of snook. The season is closed to protect spawning snook, but careful catch and release action is available. An easterly wind will ensure that our beaches will have clear undisturbed water close to shore. Large female snook can be seen frequently surrounded by some smaller courting males. Get out early and walk the sand close to areas of good tidal flow. Passes are a magnet especially if there is nearby structure. Good Polaroid glasses and a hat with a dark underside brim will make spotting fish easy. Look in the wash very close to shore. Casting will be parallel to shore, not out into deeper water. Enter the water to gently handle and release fish. White flies in size 1 to 1/0 that duplicate available baitfish will work. Lines with clear sinking tips are preferred over floating lines and will be equipped with a 30-pound fluorocarbon leader about 5 feet in length. Cast only when fish are sighted and then place the fly close enough to get their attention. Never pull the fly into the fish's face. Baitfish don't attack large predators. A fish angling toward you will be the best opportunity. Crimp or file all hook barbs to minimize handling and simplify release.

**Capt Rick Grasset** suggest tarpon fishing in the coastal gulf should be a good option especially when tides improve as we get closer to a full moon. Look for reds, snook and big trout mixed with mullet schools on shallow flats and edges of bars. Catch and release sight fishing for snook in the surf with flies or DOA Lures should also be a good option. You may also find trout, Spanish mackerel, blues or pompano on deep grass flats, particularly close to passes.

**Club members Rick and Ed** fished the 10,000 Islands last week. Although the fishing was slow there were snook, redfish and tarpon around. The guides Rick talked with at breakfast said fishing had shut down a few days before.

**Robert Fischer** has this report on his annual dolphin trip to the Keys. Dolphin fishing in the Gulf stream last week out of Marathon was pretty great. Our best day was Friday with 1' seas, clear water, good weed lines and willing fish. After finding a school by trolling ballyhoo, we kept the fish near the boat by leaving one in the water and chumming with cut up white bait. My 10 wt rod was ready with a monocoire line, 4' long 30# leader and a 3/0 epoxy head deceiver. Short casts and quick strips worked like magic. Dolphin are incredibly beautiful fish, they hit hard, jump constantly and fight you all the way to the boat. I was able to land four fish from 5 to 9 pounds before the school left. We had to stop fishing however, because every fish box on the boat was filled to overflowing. It was only 10:15 but what a great morning.

# 2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jun 13 Lake Calm, Odessa, freshwater outing
- Aug Scallop outing
- Sept 12-13 Florida Sportsman Show
- Sep CCA tournament
- Oct 17-24 Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip
- Oct 23-24 FFF Enclave, Miami, FL
- Oct Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River
- **Nov 22** **Big Gun, Picnic Island**
- Dec Members Year-End Party
- Dec Play Hooky Outing
- Dec Don Coleman Outing, Ft Desoto



## 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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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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Please Check: One Year \_\_\_\_\_ Five Year \_\_\_\_\_

Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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