



The Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

www.tbffc.org

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 2010, 5:30 p.m.

Location: Compton Park Recreation Center, Tampa Palms (See below for Directions)

Invited Speaker

Terry Jertberg

As a young boy, having been born in Brazil of Baptist Missionaries, Terry spent many days fishing for "sun fish" around Lake "Bom Fim"(good end), where he lived. He cut his "pole" from a bush that was popular for having straight branches, dug up worms from under the "caju" trees, placed the worms and dirt in a can with string around his neck, and tied some more string with a hook to his pole and AWAY HE WENT at the age of 8! This was the beginning of his passion for fishing.

Since living in Gainesville, Florida, he fishes often on the gulf side for Grouper and Kingfish offshore, and speckled trout, redfish and Spanish mackerel inshore.

10 years ago, he was given the opportunity to invest in HighRoller Fishing Lure Company, LLC, and had a chance to fish the Amazon in a country that he loves. In September of 2001, he was able to fish the Rio Negro River for the first time in the Amazon. In 2002, he started selling fishing trips to the Amazon, Costa Rica, Mexico and Alaska. His trips are carefully selected for safety, accommodations, courteous hosts, good meals, and outstanding fishing. Frank Rhodes gives him high marks in all five categories!

Featured Fly Tyers

--- You! Again!

Wednesday, May 5 will be the occasion of our second "Bull Session" fly tying event. This time, Lloyd himself will be present (his health permitting) and will teach our members how to build their own fly tying tools and supplies inexpensively. The evening's work will again be to get novice fly tiers off and running with one-on-one instruction from experienced members. This will be a hands-on workshop, so if you aren't going to tie, don't block the view of somebody who wants to learn by doing it. An easy but effective fly will be chosen, and tying materials will be supplied to all students. Please come prepared as follows:

- Bring a tying vise and tools, including thread, if you have them. Otherwise, the club has several that you can use.
- The club will supply all materials for tying the chosen fly.
- Come at 5:30 or as soon as you can get there, and you'll end the night with your self-tied fly, ready to catch a big snook, redfish, or seatrout.

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 2010 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Flyfishers,

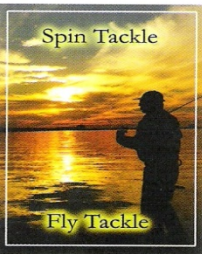
Welcome to May and warmer waters. Fishing opportunities should abound for our favorite species of snook, trout, redfish and tarpon. Please remember that snook season is closed all summer so practice careful catch and release if you are so lucky to get a snook.

Thanks to **Rick Grasset** for a great talk and pictures at our last meeting. Rick is a good friend of the club and a great representative of the fly fishing community.

Thanks to all who participated in our beginning fly tying session and hope we have a good turn out for May. Come to the meeting a little early to try your hand at tying a great fly.

Read the newsletter for other news and tight lines.

/Walt 



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Capt. Pat Damico

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<u>In This Issue:</u>	<u>Page</u>
Monthly Meeting	1
President's Message.....	2
TBFFC calendar of events.....	3
Tips for TBFFC, No. 23.....	4
Member Photos.....	5-6
Fly Tying Can Be Important.....	7
Fly of the Month.....	8
Fishing Report and Forecast.....	8
Membership Application, Guides, Casting Coaches, etc.	9

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The next meeting of the TBFFC Board of Directors will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 12, Location TBD.

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

2010 TBFFC MEETING DATES

Here are the meeting dates for the rest of 2010:; May 5; June 2; July 7; August 4; September 1; October 6; November 3; December 1, **Please watch this space for any changes.**

CLUB SHIRTS TO BE ORDERED 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 May 13.

TARPON CONTEST CELEBRATES 80 YEARS

Sarasota, FL: The Sarasota Sportfishing Anglers Club is excited to celebrate the All-Release Tarpon Tournament's 80th year in 2010! In 1929, Powell Crosley Jr., famous industrialist and radio magnate, hooked his first tarpon in our Gulf waters during a fishing trip with Robert Ringling. He loved it so much that in 1930, he was elected president of the newly formed Sarasota County Angler's Club, and the tournament was born. This is an exciting part of Sarasota's history that is **open to the public, for all ages.** Tournament activities kick-off May 18 at an informational event at Hyatt Sarasota. The five-week fishing begins May 22 and ends June 27. Cost is \$100 for adult anglers/\$50 for junior anglers. Fish one day, one week or five weeks, and your name could end up on the historic trophy

For more information or to register for the tournament, go to www.sarasotatarpontournament.info. To learn more about Suncoast Charities for Children, go to: www.suncoastcharitiesforchildren.org

FFF-SEC FLY FISHING SHOW & CONCLAVE AT UNICOI STATE PARK & RESORT JUNE 4 -5

You are cordially invited to attend the 2010 Federation of Fly Fishers Southeastern Conclave and Fly Fishing Show. It is scheduled for June 4-5, 2010. The new location is the beautiful Unicoi State Park and Resort in Helen, Georgia. .

Don't forget to visit our website at www.fffsec.org. The website's conclave information is updated on a regular basis.

O'HARA EVERGLADES CABIN FOR RENT

The O'Hara Cabin is for rent in Everglades City in the heart of the Ten Thousand Islands. Fish in one of America's last true wilderness areas for snook, tarpon, redfish and a variety of other species. Cabin sleeps three in comfort with full kitchen facilities. You will have access/use of launching ramp, pool, laundry facilities, store and deli. Our fee is \$85 per night + one-time \$35 cleaning fee. Call Rick O'Hara at 727-410-0459 or e-mail flyguy47@verizon.net.

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. 23

Casting Tip for TBFFC: 6

Our last Essential has to do with the application of Power which must be applied in the proper amount at the proper place in the casting stroke. This power application must be identical in both the forward and back cast. Apply power slowly at first and gradually increase speed before making a crisp stop. This power sequence first loads or bends the rod and then a stop unloads the rod propelling the fly line. Hammering a nail, throwing a dart or throwing paint from a wet paint brush all require the same slow start and then a smooth increase in acceleration to a sudden stop. Try doing this with a pencil in your hand to get the feel of a good cast, then pick up your fly rod butt section without line and duplicate the movement. When this feels comfortable, string your rod and do some lawn casting. Review the other four Essentials and put them all together.

Pat Damico, MCI 

Features To Consider When Selecting a Fly Reel

By John Berry – Taken from the Mid South Fly Fishers Newsletter, via FFF

As I have written before, the fly reel is just a fly line storage device until you hook a big fish. Then it quickly becomes the most important piece of gear you own. When you go to a fly shop or look in a catalog there are literally dozens of choices. They vary widely in price, come in a variety of colors and shapes and all make some pretty impressive claims. Which one do you buy?

I have a multiplier reel. If you turn the crank one full revolution the spool turns one and a half times. This feature allows me to get control over slack line very quickly. I bought it over twenty five years ago after attending a Dave Whitlock seminar on fly fishing for bass where he mentioned one. I have never fished with it. It is too heavy and I just do not need to gather up slack that quickly.

I have an anti reverse reel. This reel allows line to come off the reel without turning the crank on the side of the reel. It was designed for fishing in saltwater where strong fish can take long runs. If you were to place an errant finger in the wrong place, you could easily break a digit. I have never fished with this reel either. It is too heavy and was ridiculously expensive.

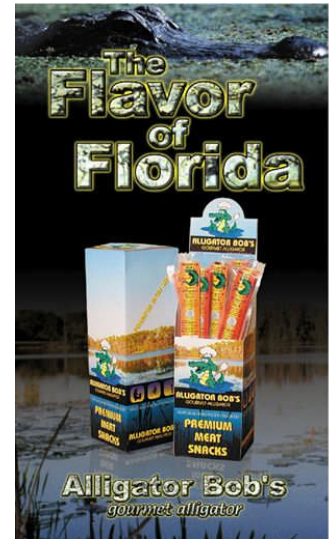
Then there is the single action reel. You turn the crank one time and the spool makes one revolution. It is simple to use and reliable. This is the one that I use for all of my fishing.

Most reels come with interchangeable spools. The spool is the part of the reel that holds the fly line. If you have interchangeable spools you can buy multiple fly lines and put each one on a different spool. This allows you to easily change from a floating line to a sink tip or a full sinking line. You should have a five weight line and a six weight line on separate spools. This would allow you to use the same reel on two or more different rods. I have spare spools for most of my reels.


The current trend in fly reels is to manufacture them with larger arbors. The arbor is the hub on the spool. If you have a larger arbor you can crank in more line with a single revolution of the spool. The simple fact is that they are significantly heavier than a reel with a conventionally sized arbor. Their increased weight does not balance as well as that of conventionally sized reels. I have never been in a situation where I had so much slack line out that I wished that I had a larger arbor to crank in the slack quicker. It is a cure for a problem that I do not experience. I would rather fish with a lighter reel.

When choosing a reel pay particular attention to their capacity. What sizes of line will they hold and with how much backing? Backing is the thin Dacron line that is attached between the reel spool and the fly line. It acts as an insurance policy in case a fish takes a long run (longer than the fly line). I want a reel that will hold the line I am buying it for and one hundred yards of backing.

Whatever you choose, have the fly shop install the backing and fly line for you. This will make everything easier. If you are going to use your reel in salt water make sure that it is designed for that purpose. Many of the high priced reels on the market are not designed to survive the abuse of salt water. At the same time, there are several moderately priced reels that function well in salt water.



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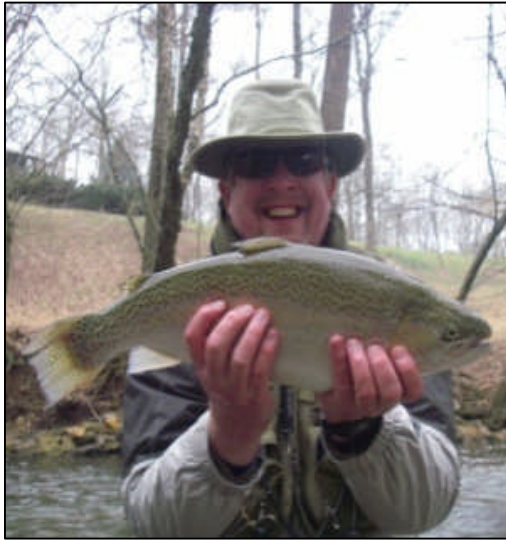
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Member Photos, May 2010

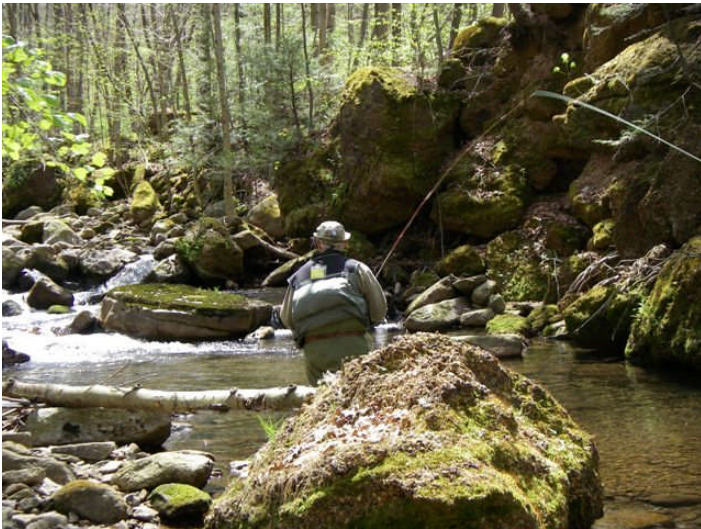
**Wally Ziprik Writes:**

This was my 50th birthday present to myself...a fishing trip on the Soque River for trout with an 8 wt..

Eirk Ashlin of the Eastern Fly Fishing club was my guide.

How did it go? Would I recommend it? Look at the pictures and you decide.

The ONLY way this trip could have been better would be if it were a steelhead trip.

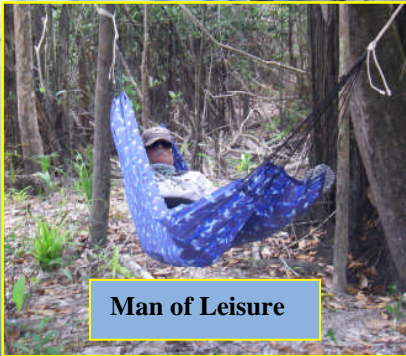


Pat Damico had success, as always, fishing in one of his favorite (but secret) haunts in Pennsylvania where he spends his summers escaping from the Florida Heat. This year the spring in PA was cold, mirroring the low temperatures here in Florida





Man of Action



Man of Leisure



Man Bites Piranha!

Here's Looking at You, Kid!
Frank Rhodes displays one of many large fish he caught on his recent trip to Brazil. Come to our May meeting to hear all of the salient (and occasionally gory) details.

Fly Tying can be Important: Look what it did for Me

by Lloyd Bull

Following my discharge from the navy after WWII I applied, along with thousands of other veterans, to get admitted to the Pre-Med schools at either Penn State or Cornell to no avail. As classes were beginning in the fall I received a call informing me that there had been a cancellation and that if I was there within 24 hours I would be granted admission. I grabbed some clothes, kissed my wife and son goodbye, jumped in my truck and drove the 300 miles to the campus and became a Penn Stater intending to become a doctor.

One of the courses I eventually took was a new 2 credit course called "The Art of Angling" to be taught by George Harvey. For a full semester we learned every aspect about the food fishes eat and how to tie replicas on a hook that would catch fish. George Harvey was a master in teaching us the ways to produce a professionally tied fly in the shortest amount of time. He had put all of the best methods of professional fly tiers world wide together into one course and I absorbed it like a sponge. It turned out to be one of the best courses I took in college.

As I was to enter my senior year and still had not been accepted at Med Schools at either Penn or Cornell I changed my curriculum to Ag Economics where I would get my degree. Three days later I received a phone call from Cornell telling me that someone had cancelled out and I would be accepted. I made a quick assessment of my financial status, my remaining G. 1. Bill status and a growing family and I declined the offer. I was already offered a very attractive position when I received my degree and no way financially could I handle another 3 years of college.

Two years after graduation I was on my way to accept a position as Manager of Farm Credit in Herkimer, N Y. As I drove down Route #28 to my new job it took me 20 miles along this beautiful river called the West Canada Creek. The West Canada was to become a major part of my life from there on. For the next year I was on the West Canada as often as possible accumulating information on fly hatches during the entire season and tied flies to supplement my income. Money was tight but I gambled \$10.00 to put an ad in Field and Stream. I offered 20 flies for 10 of the major fly hatches along with the emergence dates of the hatches, number of days the hatch would last, the time of day of the emergence and how long it would last each day. My investment in the ad paid off handsomely and I became a "Professional Fly Tier" with a very nice list of customers. The word spread and I soon had almost more requests for the flies I tied and the accompanying information than I could keep up with.

In 1953 I made a speech to one of the service clubs about fly fishing and fly tying. After the meeting adjourned the head of the Adult Education Program explained to me that they were going to venture into some new areas and asked me if I would consider teaching a class in Fly Tying. It would be the first time in the country that such a course would be offered and I agreed to do it but said I could handle only 20 people in a class. An ad was run in the paper and on registration night 40 people showed up so I taught 2 classes 3 hours a night for the 15 weeks of the class. That gave my students 42 hours of fly tying and 3 hours of casting lessons. In May the whole class went to the West Canada, and under my supervision every single person caught and released a trout on flies they had tied themselves. My reputation was made that evening. The demand for my classes accelerated until I was teaching 3 hour

classes in 4 different schools 4 nights a week in addition to my full time job with Farm Credit. I had taught the course at 11 different schools and 2 colleges, most of them for several years in a row. I had bought a small petroleum distributorship and had built it into becoming the biggest operation in the country, forcing me to cut down on the amount of time I could contribute to teaching in the evenings. After 15 years I gave up teaching the 15 week classes but continued to do "short courses" in several areas by request.

The Horrocks-Ibbotson Company in Utica, makers of Bamboo rods and other fishing equipment wanted to get into the fly tying business and asked me to teach 30 women for this purpose. Several of my students went on to major positions catering to the Fly Fishing Industry and others became regular tiers for companies such as Orvis and Feather River Trading or went into business for themselves as professional fly tiers. Most of my students of all ages, young and old tied for the pleasure it offered, sold a few flies and became some of the best fly fishermen in the area because they now had learned how and when to fish the hatches that come off.

Fly tying is an art and if you are taught the basic fundamentals of tying you can produce superb flies in the least amount of time. For many years I would tie two and a half to three dozen flies an hour to keep up with the demand and tied about 3 hours an evening. The money I made paid for fishing trips through out Canada and the United States with occasional other countries in the world. That course taught by George Harvey at Penn State opened up many doors for me and I offer opening those same doors for young people today. Fly tying does not have to be expensive. I will show you all you need to start and it doesn't cost much. Some of the best tools I use I have made myself. Come to the May meeting at 5:30 or as early as possible. I will be there and there will be something to learn for all levels of fly tiers.

It is my feeling that this club should get back to teaching Fly Tying. I did it for years when the club was young and it has evolved into a spectator event with a designated Fly Tier. There is a place for that but you do not learn much about tying a fly if you are a beginner watching someone across a table putting a fly together. It takes hands on instruction and we have not been offering that. Bringing young people into fly tying will benefit both those young people and the Tampa Fly Fishing Club. I know. It has been my life 🌅

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FLY OF THE MONTH

Clouser Deep Minnow

As Tied at Our First Bull Session



Materials

Hook: Mustad 3407 or similar, size 4, 2 or 1 to match forage fish.

Thread: 6/0 white and chartreuse.

Eyes: Small barbells red with black eyes or white with black eyes.

Belly: White bucktail or craft fur.

Wing: Pearl Krystal Flash (or material of choice) and chartreuse bucktail or craft fur.

Tying Instructions

1. Put hook in vise with point under shank. Lay down a base wrap of white thread on hook shank, and tie in the eyes on top of the hook shank 1/3 of the distance from the eye using figure eight wraps. Cover thread with head cement or nail polish.

2. Cut bucktail or Fly Fur from base (~20-30 hairs) and tie over hook shank, securing with wraps on either side of the eyes, so that ends protrude the same length as the hook shank. 3. Tie in 6-8 strands of pearl Krystal Flash or Flashabou over the hair, behind the eyes (the belly area) and whip finish behind the eyes. Trim flash material slightly shorter than the hair. Bring thread in front of eyes. Trim excess hair and flash material near eye.

4. Turn the fly over or rotate vise so that eyes are under shank. Tie in 20-30 white hairs over hook shank near eye. The hair or fur should be slightly longer than the fibers previously tied in. Tie the thread off, and change thread to chartreuse.

5. Tie in chartreuse fibers over the white, slightly longer than the white fibers.

6. Tie in a lateral line of flash material (~5 strands) just behind the hook eye on either side of the fly so that the strands lie parallel between the white and chartreuse fibers. Whip finish and coat wraps with head cement. 🍷

Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

After the awfully cold winter, April is bringing in the warm weather. The bait fish are back on the flats, not in great numbers but it will get better as the water warms up.

Fishing out of Cockroach bay **Lance Pocock** and **Robert Fischer** caught a limit of trout with two at 19 ½” and 20 ½”. Robert was using a red headed clouser and Lance used a Mirrodine plug. In the mix of all they caught was a 27” mackeral, several blue fish, two nice pompano, puffer and lots of ladyfish. Robert also spotted a trout he thought might go 29 or 30 inches.

Members, **John and Joan Willis** fishing Lake Seminole had a good day catching a dozen or so bream, pumpkinseed and blue gills using small hoppers he tied. They fish mainly out of their kayaks. On the way to Trackrock Campground near Blairsville, Georgia, they stopped to camp on West Point Lake near LaGrange Georgia to fish, and caught spotted bass and bream on a small hopper that John tied.

Robert Fischer fished with **Tom Cawthon** in the Redfly Tournament. They did not do well with redbfish but caught trout, snook, ladyfish and catfish.

Ed Bang went bass fishing at a bass pond in Riverview. He decided to use a 4 wt and on his first cast caught a 4.5 in bluegill. He let the bluegill skitter for a while when all of a sudden the bluegill became a 19 ½ inch bass. This happened two more times but he did not try to land the two. Ed really gets a thrill when this happens and he said it happens a lot.

I finally got out the April 16th and went out of cockroach bay with Lance Pocock and Robert Fischer. While traveling on the water the wind started to get a little stronger. The weather man said the winds would only be up to 10 miles per hour, not so. Impossible to fly fish so we went to spinning rods. Let me tell you when to fish with these two gentlemen you do not want to catch the first fish because I did, a 22 inch trout. And that’s the last I saw a fish on the end of my rod. Robert and Lance caught 7 more trout 19 to 24 inches. I ate mine for supper with my wife and enjoyed it.

Capt. John Hand and wife **Leslie** meet at different locations in Florida with friends **Dusty and Vicki Sprague**, and **Ben and Sue Estes** for a fly fishing outing. This year was the St Johns river at Honton Landing Resort. Main Target species was largemouth bass. After two days of no luck they switched to pan fish with immediate gratification. They caught very healthy bluegills and also a couple of crappies. Fly of choice was an olive and chartreuse hot butt sinking spider.

Bob Hinton and I went to cockroach this past Thursday and had great luck. We caught nice speckled trout, not on fly but later in the day we ran into some silver trout and switched to fly and low and behold they ate out home made flies. We are now planning trip to South Florida to fish the Alligator Alley canals. Will report on this trip next month.

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
- One-On-One Fly Casting Lessons
- Shirts and Hats with club logo
- 80 Page Beginner's Basic Skills Instruction Manual
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- Capt. Pete Greenan (941) 923-6095
- Capt. John Hand (239) 842-7778
- Capt. Wade Osborne (813) 286-3474
- Capt. Frank Rhodes (863) 967-4258
- Capt. Russ Shirley (727) 343-1957
- Capt. Keiland Smith (863) 944-7475

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

Brandon

Neil Sperling.....813-655-5627

North Tampa

Jeff Abeles813-961-0097

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

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

Bill Murdich 813-971-4764

Leigh West. 813-971-8697

Saint Petersburg

Capt. Pat Damico.....727-360-6466

Polk County

Capt. Frank Rhodes.....863-967-4258

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