



Next meeting TBD. Stay vigilant until we beat this virus.

We may be able to meet in July if we can find a new meeting place. Please stay tuned and I will keep you informed.

We visited Ft Collins, Colorado for 10 days in May and I fished the Big Thompson river. Colorado is very beautiful this time of year (and cool) and the river was fishing just fine. I hooked a few trout, but did not bring them to hand.

Lake Calm outing: 27 June

Directions to Our Meetings (0600pm): We are looking for a new meeting place. One prospect is a room at USF. More to come on this and hope to see you all soon. //Walt

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you all are getting by oaky and staying out of harms way. We will resume club activities when it's safe again. We have not found a new meeting place as yet and welcome your ideas.

Please support our local club guides sooner than later. The front of a flats boat is safe and loads of fun.

We had a fun-filled banquet planned, which we will reschedule. We will refund any advance payments as needed.

Let's have our next outing at Lake Calm in Odessa on 27 June. We will open the gate at 0600 AM and fish until 1100. The club will provide a light lunch and drinks. We can spread out there, so come by and say hello even if you don't fish.
Please RSVP to me via email.

Google "Bonnie Cove Lane" for directions to Lake Calm or give me a call. We will be thru the gate at the end of the lane.

//Walt Durkin 

Project Healing Waters News

PHW has cancelled overnight or national trips until 31 December. Based on that, **Joe Perez** re-scheduled his June trip to next year: 19-21 June 2021. Special thanks to Joe for leading our club's support to PHWs.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Pat Damico	727-504-8649
Robert Fischer	813-962-0185
Bruce Anderson	813-960-8523

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

Patty Anderson and Pat Damico found this fishing website or us to while away the time:

<https://vimeo.com/jazznflyfishing>

Capt Pat also found this site:

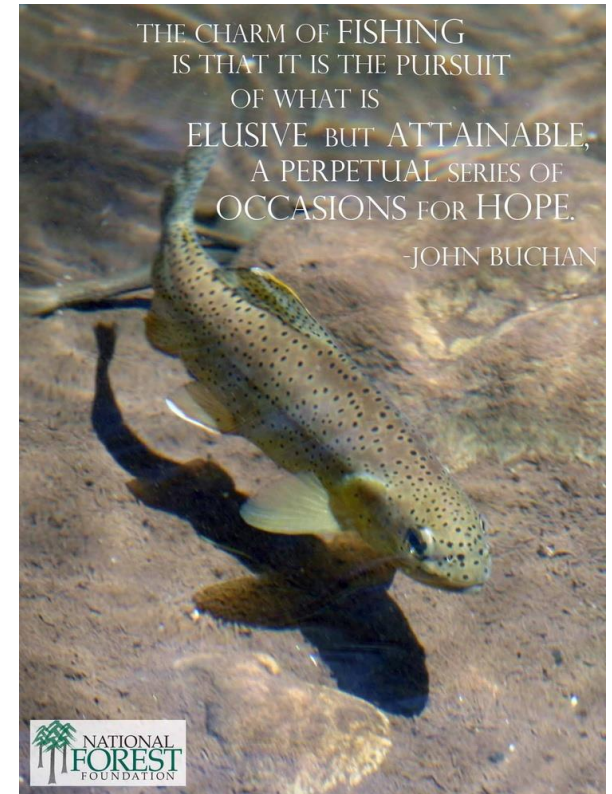
<https://www.freshwatersillustrated.org/hidden-rivers?fbclid=IwAR1i2fGsdJInJS5FcguJ64C-13WnN2sqqiluPaCEVYAyXQaQdtw5jc3urbg>

Robert Fischer has a few openings at the Two Boys Inn, 10-17 Oct 2020. This is a great trip for \$2600 and includes six day's guided fishing for big bonefish. Also, good food and lodging.

Capt Frank Rhodes also has openings for Mexico 17-24 Oct. Contact me to reserve your spot with at deal at \$2500. We go there every year and have a great time. Costa de Cocas lodge.

TBFFC Moving from Compton Park

We are seeking a new venue for club meetings. The new manager at Compton Park indicated we do not really meet the requirements to continue at that location. We had a great run there and thank the helpful and courteous staff for their support for over 10 years. Special thanks also to Dr. Greg Stepanski for originally sponsoring us. We welcome ideas for a new meeting place and will keep you informed. We hope to meet again in July. //Walt

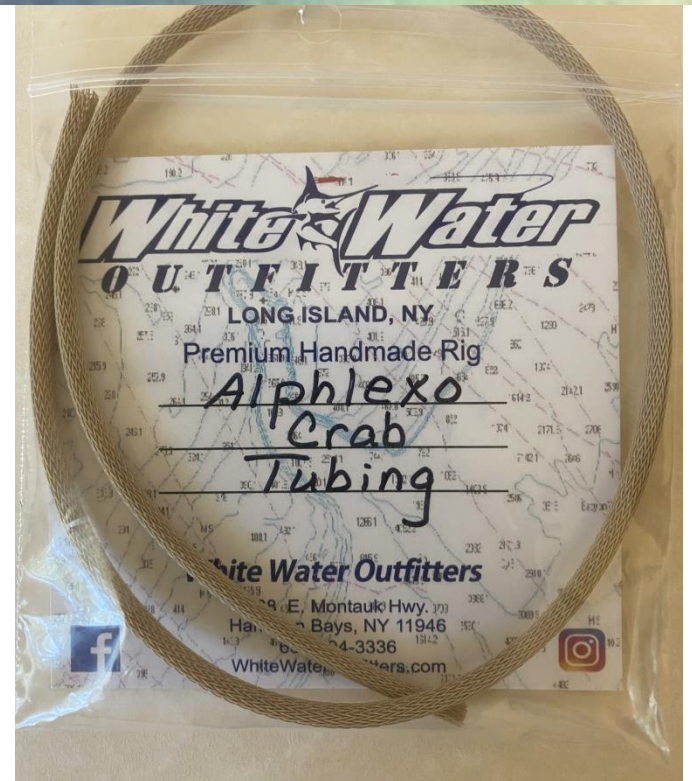


Fly of the Month

Alphlexo Crab

I have been tying this fly in different colors. The one pictured uses a clear tubing that is pretty cool. I will try this one for beach snook. So far I have caught snook and reds on them while sight fishing and sheepshead have shown some interest. I will tie one for you when we meet again. Meanwhile, you can find instructions on YouTube.

Originally designed for fly fishing the Seychelles, the Alphlexo Crab has become a must-have fly for targeting saltwater species such as bonefish and permit worldwide. I found the tubing at White Water Outfitters, but local shops may have it.



Tips on Presently the Fly

Let's talk about fly presentation. This is important because correct fly presentation is the most important variable that determines whether or not you get that fish to eat. A good presentation with an average fly will out-fish the best fly presented poorly. I was reminded of this while fishing New Brunswick for Atlantic salmon. One of our guides was born on the river and is now in his 80's. When I showed him a fly I had tied and asked if it would catch a salmon this is how he replied after studying my home-made pattern: "yes, it will catch a salmon, if presented correctly". Moreover, in trout fishing a drag-free drift is considered more important than fly pattern. If it is not presented naturally trout simply will not take.

Here are things to think about when presenting your fly. First, practice casting so that you can make accurate casts from 20 to 50 feet. Also, it helps to deliver your fly quickly at times, so practicing that skill will pay off. Next, plan to get the fly into the water before the fish sees it. Often times when the fish sees the fly enter the water, the show is over. For skinny water, it's best to get your fly in the water and on the bottom before the fish sees it. This is especially true for the crab and shrimp patterns we fish in the winter. Fish are bottom-oriented in the winter and expect to find their prey on the bottom. Try to present your fly so that the fish finds it as they would natural prey. Next, try to make your fly behave like the natural prey. Shrimp move slowly with a current. Crabs will hunker down and try to hide in the sand. Thus, fish and move your fly accordingly.

Fishing streamers are a little different. Again, get the fly into the water quietly and down to the level of the fish before they see it. Try to present the fly so that your quarry just sees it out of the corner of their eye, perhaps 4 to 5 feet away. When the fish turns on it, you can swim your fly away and trigger a strike. For big tarpon, you may have to get the fly even closer, as they are lazy and may not move far for your morsel.

When blind casting over grass flats getting your fly to the right depth is important. Then, try varying your retrieve from slow to fast to see what might work. If you find fish chasing bait in frenzy, then just cast it out there and start a retrieve. That scenario is pretty easy, but may require a longer cast.

Finally, try to find a flat where you can sight fish. Watching fish react to flies you have presented is invaluable. Those fish you catch or not will be your teachers. I hope these tips help and look forward to seeing you on the water.

//Walt

Captain Bryon Chamberlin got to sneak out with Captain Dave Chouinard the other day. Dave went 1 for 3 on tarpon.

Tarpon fishing is very good this year. Think about booking one of our guides for a great day on the water.



We spotted this diamond-back while walking the trails at Weedon Island. BTW, Weedon has great shaded trails for you to enjoy this summer. Like Siri says: Check it out!



North of Ft Collins up the Poudre River canyon we saw moose, elk and deer while fishing in late May. I did not get close to the moose as he crossed over. They can get cantankerous.



We tried to fish Zimmerman Lake off the upper Poudre river, but the trail had snow and the lake was still frozen-over at 9500 feet. We will come back in the summer to try for the native greenback cutthroats in the lake. Meanwhile, the Poudre was running high, but clear and we raised a few trout. And, we stopped at our happy hour place with Bruce and Patty to enjoy wine. Sorry, I only got Bruce peeking around the shot.



Club members Patty and Bruce Anderson continue to enjoy the cool weather in Ft Collins. They fished the Red Feather reservoir where they landed four rainbow trout in early June.



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Club Member George Ross reports: I went fishing at the skyway fishing pier a week ago for pompano and didn't catch any. Instead I caught 15 yellow jack and they were at least 4 to 5lbs each. I did this in hour and half and I was using a 1oz yellow dock jig with a pink teaser that I tied.

Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports: Interesting times and I have done better than most guides through this. Still, I lost every out of state client. Every single one. The next week was stellar with five trips in seven days. It is an easy time to be a guide and the action is good. Species closures have helped the action. Trout I'd say are in relatively the same numbers but they are getting larger in general. Redfish continue to be better than they have been in years. Snook need another five years of closure and having the results of successful spawns yield more snook and all the juvenile snook to turn into big fish. Pompano are starting to get better. Flounder started out the year good and have faded a little. My new pompano fly has yielded good results. Steve Hearn used it to catch everything except pompano. I sent it down to Jeremy Loercher in the Keys and he slammed the pompano on it. It is a very basic tie. I'm no expert. Chartreuse, flash and gold. The chartreuse can be substituted with pink. I use a size 2, 3407 Mustad and I tie the fly about an inch and a half long. I am attaching multiple tungston beads for weight. Two beads per fly. I am excited about the ending of May. Summer approaches and things might get tougher. Right now, the fishing is not difficult at all. Contact Neil at Livelybaits@aol.com Phone: 727-692-6345

Capt. Pat reports: Many reports from local fly guides and serious fly fishers are filled with frustration. The number of boats on the water has never been greater. The difficulty of getting migrating tarpon along the beaches to accept a fly makes this a daunting task but can be compounded by the daily displays of poor manners by many fishermen. Casting a fly to relaxed fish has become much more difficult. Finding laid-up fish or fish daisy chaining is now a rarity. Chasing a school of visible fish with an outboard or even a fast running trolling motor will put them on high alert and ruin everyone's chances for success, especially in the shallows. Spending time on the water will give you a good idea of areas that tarpon frequently travel giving you a predictable pattern. Anchor in those areas and wait for relaxed fish. Have a float attached to your anchor with a quick disconnect so that when a fish is hooked you can follow them and later return to your spot. In the shallows, a push pole is a stealthy way to go. If you see someone, "On the pole," they have to be in shallow water. Stay away! Apply the golden rule to your time on the water and everyone's success rate will increase. **Pat Damico** charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at captpatdamico.com and (727) 504-8649.

Capt. Rick Grasset reports: Tarpon should be plentiful in the coastal gulf this month as big schools of fish migrate along our beaches. Also look for cobia, tripletail and false albacore (little tunny) in the coastal gulf. Catch and release snook fishing should also be good in and around passes and in the surf. Fishing for a variety of species should also be good on deep grass flats.

Tarpon fishing should be good during June as schools of fish increase in size and numbers. They will head off shore to spawn, close to new and full moons. I've done well with Lefty's Deceiver and my Grasset Flats Bunny fly patterns fished on floating fly lines. Stake out or anchor in travel lanes to get shots at them. Tarpon are creatures of habit and will travel on the same edges and depth contours. The shallower the water, the easier it is to get you fly in front of a tarpon when fly fishing. Since fish may be moving both north and south, setting up within several hundred yards of another angler may negatively affect their fishing. Fly fishing for tarpon is very dependent on conditions and there are a lot of variables that need to come together to be successful.

Snook, reds and spotted seatrout remain closed to harvest on the west coast of Florida. The Florida FWC has extended a temporary modification of regulations for reds, snook and trout, in the areas affected by the recent red tide. The area extends from Pasco County, south to the south bank of Gordon Pass in Collier County. Reds, snook and trout are catch and release only in that zone until May 31, 2021. Full details including exact boundaries can be found at <https://myfwc.com/news/all-news/extended-cnr-220/>. This is great news for our fishery! Sarasota Bay is rebounding and the continued closure will make it even better. Snook Fin-Addict Guide Service, Inc. (941) 923-7799 (office)



Our new **traveling club flags** are on the move! Four club members in Cayo Coco, Cuba in May. Lower right **Ted and Frank** in Cordova AK in September. **Lou and Walt** at Casuarina Point, Abaco, Bahamas in April 2018.



Patty and Bruce Anderson
In Belize City, Belize
behaving themselves



Mexico 2019 hog
snapper dinner



Ted and Walt beach snook
fishing Little Gasparilla
Island May 2019



Walt and Capt. Frank
in the jungles of Columbia
March 2019



Two Boys Inn, Andros, Sep 19



2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 18 Red Fly Tournament
- Feb 21-22 Shad Outing, Mullet Lake campground
- Mar Casting Clinic
- Mar 29 Annual Banquet - Cancelled
- Apr 23 CCA Banquet - Cancelled
- June 27 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct 10-17 Two Boys inn, Andros Island
- Oct Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct 17-24 Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip
- Oct Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River
- Nov 8-12 Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov 6-7 FFI Expo
- Nov Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Nov Florida Sportsman Show
- Dec 3 Members Year End Party
- Dec 11 Play Hooky at the Hatchery
- 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
- Capt. Greg Peterson (423) 432-1973

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Dan Lagace.....813-929-6605
Leigh West813-971-8697

St. Petersburg

Capt. Pat Damico.....727-504-8649

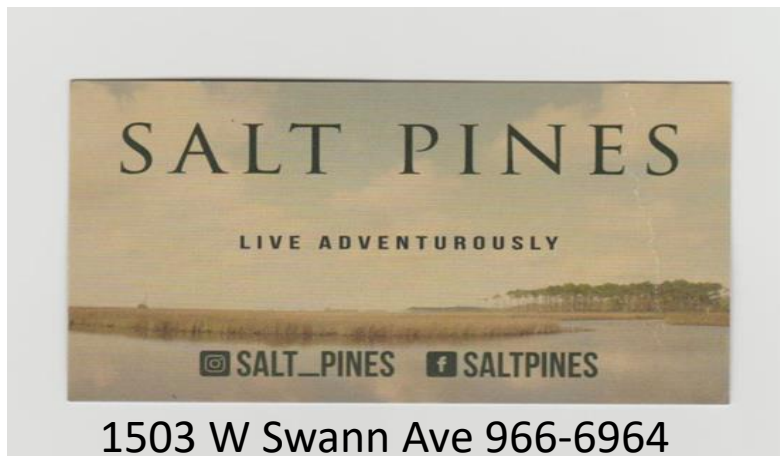
Polk County

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

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- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grasset, (941) 923-7799, www.snookfin-addict.com
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Type of Membership: _____

Please Check: One Year _____ Five Year _____

Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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(includes one membership and Ad Space)

\$120.00 Corporate Double Membership

(includes two memberships or family membership and

Ad Space in Newsletter)

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