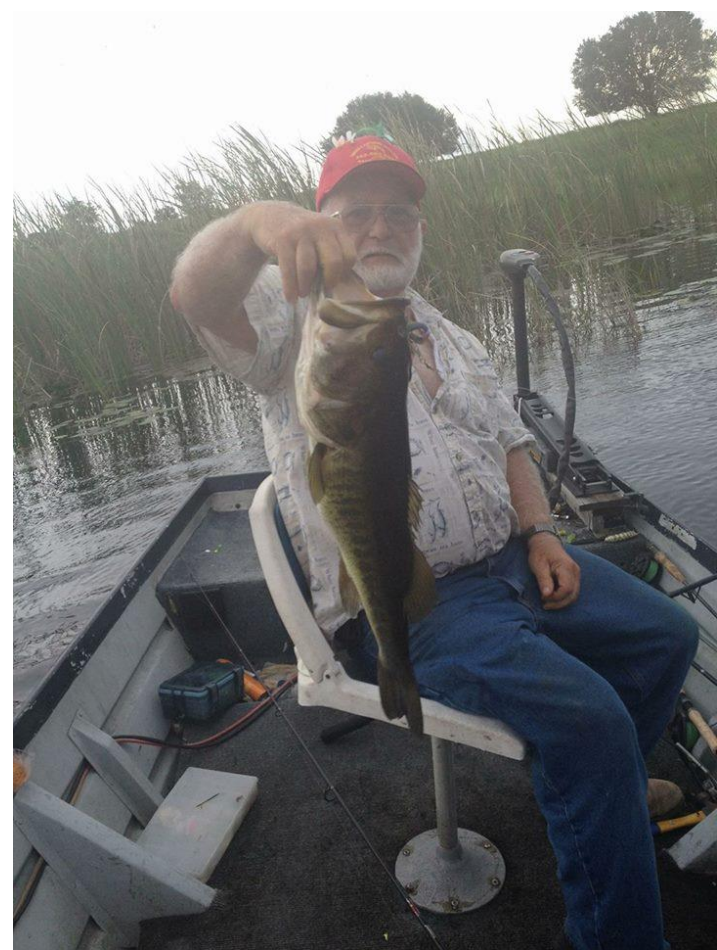




**Next meeting 6 November  
0600 PM to 0900 PM  
Fresh Water Fishing Tips  
Jim Swann**

Jim is a good friend of the TBFFC and will share his tips and tying expertise with us. Summer is a good time to fish our lakes and ponds and Jim can teach a novice about casting and catching fish in five minutes. Jim returned to Dade City in 1994, after a career as a General Motors tool and die maker. He has built his business at 13650 U.S. 98 bypass (Dade City) through word of mouth, and now builds fly or spinning rods for customers from Sarasota to Gainesville. His shop is loaded with a myriad of fishing gear and is well worth a visit to experience an old Florida shop. You will likely find Jim tying one of the thousands of flies in his shop. Please join us for good stories and advice from a master.



**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 November and the beginning of our winter fishing. We can now dream of cool, clear water and more sight fishing chances. Check out our fishing report for tips.

I hope you enjoyed Leigh's tips on fly fishing last month. Thanks to Leigh for sharing his enthusiasm, knowledge and memorable pictures.

We need help at the Florida Sportsman Show on 16 and 17 Nov. Go in the Orient Rd gate and tell them you are working our club table to get in free. Just sit at the table and answer questions about the club.

Dick Miekka and I fished the famous Miramachi River in New Brunswick for a week in September. We had a great time; see page 8 for pictures.

Our December meeting will be a Holiday party. We will serve grits, grunts and hush puppies and you may bring a dessert, salad or appetizer. We will also exchange gifts valued at \$10-15. We will provide water and soft drinks and hope everyone can attend.

// Walt Durkin



## EVENTS

- 16-17 Nov: Florida Sportsman Show
- 17 Nov: Big Gun, Picnic Island
- 4 Dec: Our Christmas party
- 13 Dec: Play hooky at the hatchery

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin	813-513-2122
<a href="mailto:Walt.durkin@aol.com">Walt.durkin@aol.com</a>	cell 813-853-5870
Vice President: Ted Hagaman	813-920-7863
Treasurer: Rick Valeri	813-681-9143
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<b>Directors</b>	
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Bryon Chamberlin	813-361-8801
Pat Damico	727-504-8649
Robert Fischer	813-962-0185
Bruce Anderson	813-960-8523
Rick O'Hara	813-238-6763

# The BIG GUN SHOOT-OUT



Sponsored by the **Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club**

Sunday, November 17 at 9:00 a.m.

Picnic Island Park, Tampa (Shelter #611)

Experts and beginners alike are invited to test their fly casting skills at the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club's annual "Big Gun Shoot-Out" casting competition!

Individuals and teams of 3 are welcome!

Plaques will be awarded for highest scoring man and woman, highest scoring teams, and the "Big Gun," the overall distance casting champion.

Contestants will participate in competition stations that mimic the challenges of fly fishing, such as casting under the mangroves, into a cup of water, or through a hoop suspended a few feet off the ground. Come out and give it a try – you'll be hooked!

The competition will run from 9 am - 2 pm. There is NO entry fee, and lunch will be provided to all contestants. You may use your own rod for all competition stations except the Big Gun distance contest. Volunteers also are needed to help set up the course and score contestants.

**CONTACT: Rick O'Hara (flyguy47@verizon.net)**

Please let us know if you are coming by 11/13 so we can order adequate food and beverages

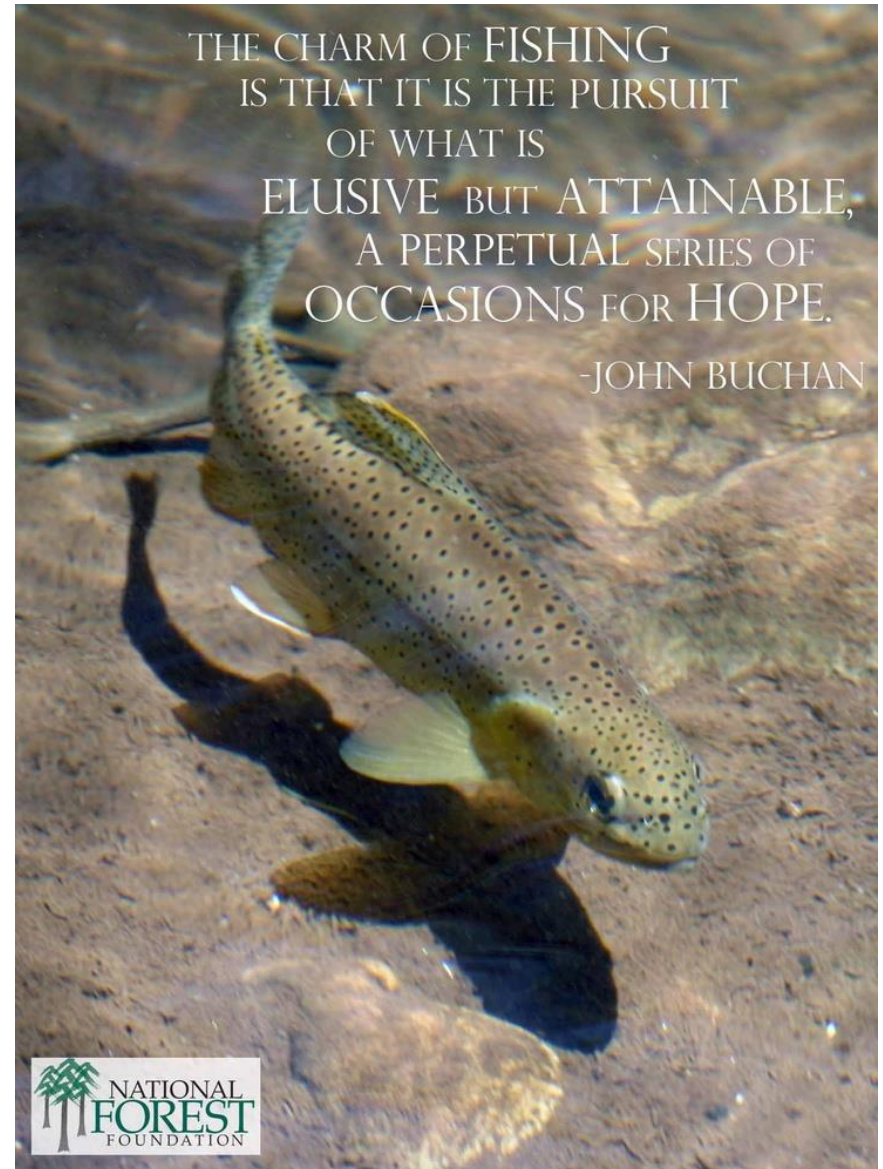


## TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

**Costa De Cocas Trip:** We had another great trip to our lodge in Xcalak, Mexico. Seven of us caught numerous bonefish and had multiple shots at permit. We found a few tarpon and I had two follow, but not take. Weather was fairly good with east winds and sunny to partly cloudy. The guides, staff, food and drink were all very good as usual. A little extra hot and some pesky mosquitos, but otherwise just fine. We will go again in mid-October next year.

**Carl Hanson Outing:** About 20 of us from the Tampa and the St Pete clubs enjoyed our annual outing. Weather was great on the Hillsborough River and we all caught panfish and bass. **Robert Fischer** won for the most fish (28) and **Mark Hays** for the biggest bass (13"). **Denise** provided a great lunch.

**Play Hooky at the Hatchery 13 Dec:** Please join us for a fun morning of fishing at the Port Manatee Fish and Wildlife Hatchery. It is located across the street from the Manatee jail at 14470 Harllee Rd Palmetto, FL 34221. Arrive at 08:00 AM to begin fishing. Check in at the office on the right and drive down to the pond on the left. **Gina Russo** will talk about the hatchery and we will have lunch and drinks. Bring small Clouser minnow patterns and a floating or sinking line for snook, reds and tarpon.







Carl Hanson  
photos by Denise  
Bruner. Robert  
Fischer and Mark  
Hays with the  
trophy.





Mexico trip to Costa de Cocas: Rich Gorden leaning with a nice bonefish; Walt with a jack; John with a bonefish; Rich with a nice one; and Walt with another one.





Capt. Frank and Kelly show you can catch bonefish on a rainy day. A nice double and some good singles on a 20-plus fish day in Mexico. By the way, did you know bonefish don't tail in the rain? They don't want to get their tails wet.







Walt and Dick Meikka fished the **Miramachi River** in New Brunswick in mid-September at **Bullocks Lodge**. Viewed on the left is the home pool where Walt caught a 14 pound Atlantic salmon and Dick hooked and lost a much larger fish. We had a great time and also caught a few brook trout and Dollies. You fish from 9 to 12am and then break for a hot lunch and a nap followed by fishing from 4 to 7pm. We enjoyed Canadian beer and a bottle of Famous Grouse scotch. One of our guides was Vince Swayze, born on the river, and 85 years young.



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



Grand Cayman June 2019





## Fishing Report and Forecast

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

**Kayak guide Neil Taylor reports:** An extended slow season, less time fishing than usual which is too bad. There's a good Fall bite before Fall has arrived. One or two serious cold fronts and the action with bigger trout will accelerate. Trout will lead the way for the next six months. "Closed" to harvest, their numbers should be good, although not everyone got the memo that they are closed. The baitfish hasn't left so chasing the baitfish schools is still a legit way to go. It is still good to go early but we get some cold weather, the bite will extend farther into the day. Season opportunities exist already. Pompano winding down, silver trout accelerating. Mackerel are out there good right now: Much better for King mackerel than spanish mackerel. You need to get out into the Gulf for this to be a realistic opportunity.

Livelybaits@aol.com Phone: 727-692-6345

Beautiful sunny windless days may be great for a lot of things but fly fishing isn't one of them unless you make some adjustments. Very clear water, especially in the gulf, has presented many issues when sight casting. Snook are still around and share their water close to shore with baby tarpon. If we can easily see fish at a distance, how do we appear to them? Not using a flats boat is a good start. Use your boat to get to fish that are undisturbed, then wade if the bottom is suitable. It is even better to stay on land away from the water when fish are close to shore. Avoid a shadow or flash from the sun on your equipment. Leave brightly colored clothes at home. Blend in with the water or sky. Minimize what you carry. Metal fly boxes, hemostats, clippers, reflective sunglasses, even light-colored skin can be covered to allow a closer approach as well as sun protection. Wear a neutral-colored wide brim hat with a dark underside to improve vision with good polarized sunglasses. A good pair of fly fishing gloves should also have a thicker area to prevent cut fingers from frequent stripping of the fly line while working a fly. The new distance fly lines that have a rough texture cut skin easily. Long thinner tapered leaders, often 12-15 feet, will keep the thicker fly line away from the fish. Cast accurately and allow the smaller fly to land on the water softly, well ahead of a moving fish. Very long casts are necessary; practice them with an absolute minimum of false casting.

Pat Damico charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at [captpatdamico.com](http://captpatdamico.com) and (727) 504-8649.



**Capt. Rick Grasset reports:** Fishing dock lights for snook and more before dawn and the flats or coastal gulf after daylight is a good option. With stone crab traps in the water now, there is more structure to attract tripletail in the coastal gulf. Fishing mangrove shorelines for catch and release reds and snook in backcountry areas should also be a good option. You may find juvenile tarpon in creeks, canals or around dock lights this time of year. Our natural resources are under constant pressure from red tides fueled by industrial, agricultural and residential runoff, freezes, increasing fishing pressure and habitat loss and degradation, please limit your kill, don't kill your limit!

Snook Fin-Addict Guide Service, Inc. (941) 923-7799 (office)

Club member Ken Moser booked Rick for a trip and enjoyed night snook and daytime trout!



## 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 19 Red Fly Tournament
- Feb 1-3 Shad Outing St John's River
- Feb 9 Girls Fish Too!
- Feb 24 East Lake Woodlands fly fishing seminar
- Mar 2 Casting Clinic
- Mar 31 Annual Banquet
- Apr CCA Banquet
- June 22 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct 19-26 Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip
- Oct 26 Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River
- Nov 3-8 Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov 17 Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Nov 16-17 Florida Sportsman Show
- Dec 4 Members Year End Party
- Dec 13 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

## Fly Casting Coaches

### Dade City

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

### South Tampa

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

Walt Durkin.....813-853-5870

### 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

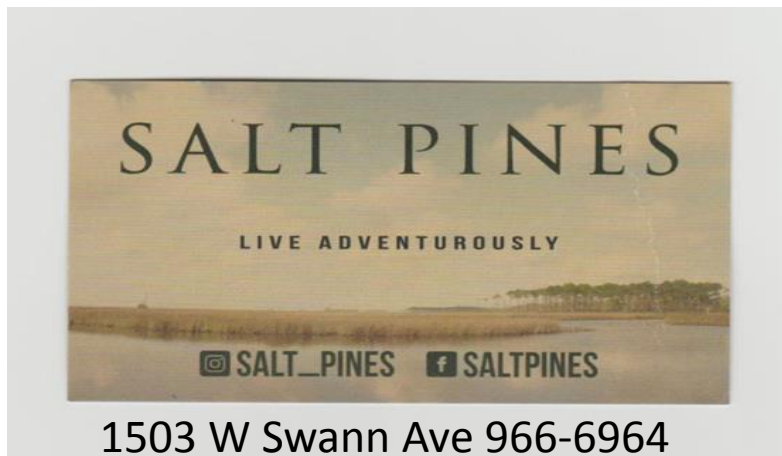
Capt. Frank Rhodes.....863-967-4258



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- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 ,w [www.captpat.com](http://www.captpat.com), pat4jaws@hotmail.com
- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grasset, (941) 923-7799, [www.snookfin-addict.com](http://www.snookfin-addict.com)
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- Dave Chouinard, Simms Fishing, 732-610-9700, Fax: 727-953-6296 ; [Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.com](mailto:Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.com)



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Member Application

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