



We will meet on 3 November at Compton Park and plan on a safe meeting. Some COVID restrictions will still be in place though. Hope you all are staying safe and finding time to get out on the water.

Let's do some fly tying at our November meeting. Bring your materials and tie your favorite redfish fly. I will tie my almost famous Rat fly. It's a small crab imitation that has fooled reds, trout, snook, sheepshead and bonefish.

CDC Notice Regarding Meeting Places

In order to protect the health of TBFFC members, all attendees must self-screen for symptoms or other risk factors of COVID-19 before attending monthly meetings.

Your answer must be “no” to the following questions before attending:

- Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 48 hours: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea?
- Have you been in close physical contact in the last 14 days with anyone who is known to have laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 OR anyone who has any symptoms consistent with COVID-19?
- Are you isolating or quarantining because you may have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 or are worried that you may be sick with COVID-19?
- Are you currently waiting on the results of a COVID-19 test?

If you answer “yes” to any of the above questions, please do not come to the meeting. Please wear a mask if you are not vaccinated. Thanks. //Walt

Directions to Our Meetings (6:00 pm): 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

I hope you all are hanging in there and taking care of each other. I look forward to returning to Florida after some time in Colorado. Great winter fishing will start in November and I hope to see you on the flats. Look for the low tides in the morning for the best sight fishing. Check out our fishing report for more ideas and tips.

Please check out our new club website at TBFFC.org if you have not done so. It's off to a good start and we will add content as we go along.

We will host the Big Gun on 21 November at Picnic Island. Come about 0800 to help setup or 0900 to start casting. We will provide a light lunch and drinks . Look forward to a fun outing where you can test your skills while you learn from some of the best.

Congrats to **Karen Warfel and Robert Fischer** for winning the trophies in the Carl Hanson Memorial Tournament on 23 Oct. I hope everyone had a good time and I was sorry to miss it. Thanks to Denise and Robert for bringing drinks and cookies!

//Walt Durkin 

Quotes for the Month:

“What a tourist terms a plague of insects, the fly fisher calls a great hatch”.

Patrick F. McManus

“Time flies so fast after youth is past that we cannot accomplish one half the many things we have in mind or indeed one half our duties. The only safe and sensible plan is to make other things give way to the essentials, and the first of these is fly fishing.” **Theodore Gordon**

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin **813-513-2122**
Walt.durkin@aol.com cell **813-853-5870**

Vice President: Ted Hagaman 813-920-7863

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Denise Bruner (new number) 813-748-5065

Bryon Chamberlin 813-361-8801

Pat Damico 727-504-8649

Robert Fischer 813-495-5685

Bruce Anderson 813-786-3902

Keaton Anderson 404-313-7820

Kris Smythe 813-767-2389

The BIG GUN SHOOT-OUT

Sunday, November 21 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 individual, 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 - 12 pm. There is NO entry fee, and lunch will be provided to all contestants. You may use your own rod for all competition. Final Big Gun cast is with an 8 weight and standard line. Volunteers also are needed to help set up the course and score contestants.

You can get free tickets on Eventbrite to help us track attendees. Come a little early if you want to help set up. Thanks. //Walt

TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

Tom H. Logan, Chairman of the FFI Board Conservation Committee, reports this good news. Thanks to Tom for his hard work.

Fly Fishers International joined our many Conservation Partners in April 2021 to form the Hunt & Fish 30x30 Initiative, which essentially is a coalition that is endorsing a goal of preserving 30% of the globe's lands and waters by 2030. We joined this initiative by endorsing the following statement: <https://www.huntfish3030.com/hunting--fishing-community-statement.html>.

Members of the Initiative have been working since on development of comprehensive recommendations for achievement of the "30x30" goal in the United States as an example to other world leaders. Those recommendation have been completed with substantive input from our Conservation Committee and they were both invited and delivered to the Biden Administration yesterday (October 13, 2021) for inclusion of the Administration's "Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful 2021" and in support of enhanced conservation delivery in the United States. The document is very comprehensive; so, I would encourage you to at least read the Introduction and Executive Summary of the document to appreciate the substance of the recommendations FFI has been a part of developing. Also, please do share information regarding the 30x30 Initiative and these recommendations within your respective Councils and Clubs.

Carl Hanson Outing – 23 Oct

Rotary Riverfront Park

Park in Temple Terrace, Florida
8000 E Fowler Ave, Temple Terrace, FL 33637

Thanks to all who participated in our outing on the Hillsborough River in memory of Carl Hanson. Carl was quite a character and loved fly fishing and tying. He was generous with his time and hosted weekly tying sessions for many years. We remember and miss him.

Fly Fishers International Virtual Expo

The first ever Fly Fishers International Virtual Expo is coming to you on November 5-7, 2021! Register now as an FFI members for just \$25 and receive exclusive access to over 150 workshops, demonstrations, and presentations. You can check out the full schedule and register online.

"Play Hooky" December Outing

We are planning on our Play Hooky outing on 10 Dec at **the Suncoast Youth Center in Apollo Beach**. Gina Russo is setting that up for us and we will fish their pond as we did on the old site. More details in December.



Whiting Buzzer Pack

I bought this material in Colorado and found it really works great for the hackle on your woolly buggers. The feathers are long and just the right width. Pictured is a light green buzzer with a bead head and a peacock hurl body. The woolly buzzer is simple, fun-to-tie, and works everywhere for trout. Fish it on the dead drift and then strip it in. I like it in brown, green or black and you can add a little flash also. //Walt



Carl Hanson Memorial Outing
Bill AuCoin from the St Pete club reports: "There were three winners at this year's Hanson Memorial. **Karen Warfel** caught 39 panfish (mostly on Smitty's spider)) and gets her name on the trophy. **Robert Fischer** caught a longish mudfish and gets to keep the Hanson artwork for a year. And **Denise Bruner** won the new Best Ginger Cookies in the World Award. She brought a bunch of them for the lunch and, of course, we gobbled 'em up.



FISHING THE DRIFTLESS by Patty Anderson

We were on a road trip to visit a family cabin in Northern Wisconsin this summer when my Chicago based brother called and suggested we meet up in Minnesota to fly fish for trout. I said “What are you talking about? Trout in Minnesota?” He answered “Yes, you can catch trout in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and even Iowa.” Iowa??? We immediately set our GPS and routed ourselves toward southeastern Minnesota.

The area my brother was talking about is referred to the Driftless Area of the Upper Midwest, an area that expands 24,000 square miles along the Mississippi River and bordering the 4 states. The ancient glaciers that moved across North America during the ice age left this area untouched. What resulted is a unique topography of rugged limestone cliffs, deep valleys, and most important to anglers is more than 600 natural springs that feed thousands of miles of cold, crystal clear streams. Brook trout are native to these streams. Brown and rainbow trout were introduced in the 1800’s and the browns have adapted so well that they spawn naturally in the streams and some have grown to trophy size catches. Fishing the area means traipsing through cow pastures, corn fields, and forested valleys to fish small streams that can hold big fish. Wisconsin and Minnesota have made agreements with many farmers and landowners to allow anglers river access through their private lands.

On our first trip to the area we hired a guide from the Driftless Fly Fishing Company in Preston, Minnesota. We followed him down many dirt roads through pristine farm country and Amish buggies to our guide’s secret creek!! This crystal clear stream had 2 miles of continued easy public access along a grassy bank with a well established walking trail. We did not encounter any other fisherman on the river that day and had plenty of room to spread out and many opportunities to sight cast and catch both small and large trout.

We were so impressed by this fishery that we made a stop in Viroqua, Wisconsin for a second trip. We fished on our own and spent the first day driving down farm roads, going up hills and down valleys as we scouted out the many rivers and streams. We fished the next day on the Timber Coulee River, that winds through farmers fields in a beautiful valley. Although there were other anglers in the area, we felt no fishing pressure and had plenty of river for the three of us to spread out and fish. A farmer whose property we were on came out for a friendly chat and gave us some fishing tips. There are many rivers and streams to explore in the Driftless Area and we will be going back. We added catching an Iowa and Illinois trout on our list too. It is definitely worth a trip to the midwest.

A few resources about visiting the area:

- Wisconsin DNR Trout information and maps <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/trout/index>
- Driftless Angler Fly Shop <https://www.driftlessangler.com/>
- Minnesota DNR Trout fishing information and maps <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/trout/southeast.html>
- Driftless Fly Fishing Company <https://www.minnesotaflyfishing.co>

Driftless Streams



Robert Fischer reports: “Mike Perez and I fished around the shallows of Anclote Key and saw several large redfish in skinny water but didn't get them to bite. We also got some hits on top-water plugs from some snook but got no hookups. At the very end of the day (noon) we found a pothole with about 10 snook in it but we let that pass until next time. I also fished Chassahowitzka Reserve with Jim Adams who knows the area very well. It was too early (dawn) and the water was too muddy to sight fish so we threw top-water plugs only. We caught 5 redfish 3 snook and a jack all on Zara Spooks. Great fun. Plus we were back at the ramp by 11 am. The Chaz is a very treacherous place but fortunately Jim has 20 years of experience. I would never take my boat up there. They have the meanest nastiest rocks I have ever seen, and it's rumored that the rocks move around at night so they can grab lower units where it was safe to run on the previous day”.



Kelly Sobczak reports: “Wes and Kelly have taken this month for a Fall Fishing and Foliage Trip - fishing and sightseeing across lower Appalachia. A few highlights include smallmouth bass in the Shenandoah River VA, brown and rainbow trout in the Cumberland River KY, war paint shiners in Little River (Great Smoky Mountain National Park in TN), and amazing rainbows on the Davidson River NC (we caught almost 40 fish each on one day).”



Fishing the Arkansas River in Central Colorado at 9000 feet. They are getting snow on the peaks and we fished in one snow storm for awhile. Also, had a little ice on the guides on a cool morning!



Patty Anderson with a nice brown trout on the Arkansas. Lou and Bruce trying their luck on a prospective run. We had lows in the 20's and high's in the 50's. You stay warm as long as the sun is shining on you.



Colorful brook trout from the Big Thompson river flowing into Estes Lake, Estes Park, CO. Great fall fishing in the cool, clear water on a sunny day in late afternoon. We saw elk and bighorn sheep on the way home.



Club Welcomes New Certified Casting Instructor Jonas Magnusson



Jonas believes the very best way to learn the basics is to get solid instructions from a certified casting instructor. Accordingly, Jonas is ready and willing to teach fly casting to interested members. Jonas is new to Tampa and learning our waters, but is an experienced fly fisherman and certified instructor. Jonas also teaches veterans working with Project Healing Waters. Meet Jonas at our next meeting or give him a call at 361 903 2846.



Casting Platform for Sale

Aluminum casting platform with removable backrest, 39" x 24" x 18". Built by Sanchez Bros. Very good condition. Ideal for flats or bay boat to raise you 18" above the deck. \$300.
Call Robert Fischer 813-495-5685.



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Captain Pat Damico reports: A sign of our approaching fall fishing blitz is the large schools of false albacore, or baby tunny, feeding heavily on maturing baitfish, especially in gulf passes. Either a strong incoming or outgoing tide will have these speedy fish chasing baitfish to the surface in areas that will attract terns and gulls, causing chaos. The birds will tell you where to fish. This is ideal fly-rod fare and can be almost too easy by observing a few rules. Running an outboard into the school will ruin your chances for success, so use the wind and tide to position your boat ahead of the surface activity, letting the fish come to you. An electric motor run slowly is a big help to get a good position. Jacks, ladyfish and mackerel will be mixed in with the albies, taking advantage of the easy pickings. The wild surface activity usually contains smaller fish, so getting your fly deeper will result in larger fish. Use a 9-weight fly rod with a full sinking or sink tip fly line; 4 or 5 feet of 25-pound hard monofilament leader will be attached to a size 2 white baitfish pattern made of synthetic materials rather than natural hair for durability. You can't retrieve the fly too fast. Many anglers put the fly rod under their arm and retrieve using both hands in hand-over-hand fashion after making a long cast; 150 yards of 30-pound backing will give you the advantage when the fish make long runs. A good large arbor reel with smooth adjustable drag is necessary.

Fly fisherman Pat Damico charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at captpatdamico.com and 727-504-8649.

Capt Rick Grasset reports:

Look for reds, snook and large trout in shallow water. Fishing deep grass flats of Sarasota Bay is a good choice for action with a variety of species including trout, Spanish mackerel, jacks, blues and more. Our natural resources are under constant pressure from red tides fueled by industrial, agricultural and residential runoff, toxic spills, freezes, increasing fishing pressure and habitat loss and degradation, please limit your kill, don't kill your limit!

Snook Fin-Addict Guide Service, Inc.; E-mail snookfin@aol.com; (941) 923-7799



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



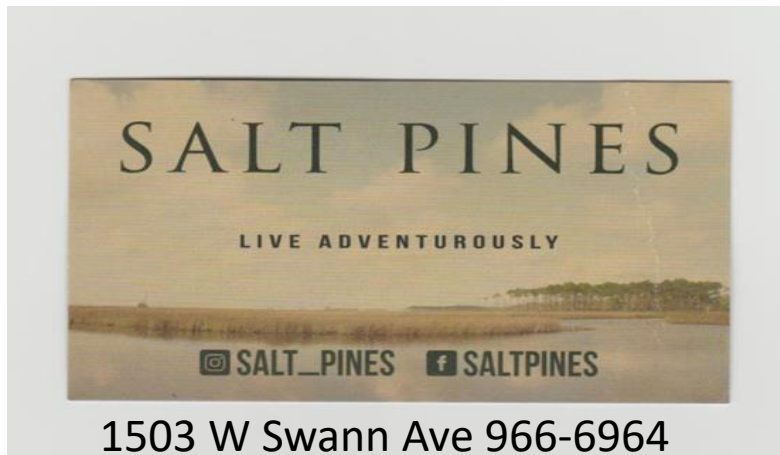
2020/21 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 18 Red Fly Tournament
- Feb Shad Outing, Mullet Lake campground
- Mar Casting Clinic
- Mar 29 Annual Banquet - Cancelled
- Apr 7 Club meeting at Compton Park
- Apr 10 Cypress Park Outing 8 AM
- May12 Club Meeting at Compton Park
- June 19 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- May 2021 Two Boys inn, Andros Island
- Oct (virtual) Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct Mexico: Costa de Cocas trip (postponed)
- Oct 23 Carl Hanson Outing
- Nov 5-12 Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov 6-7 FFI Expo
- Nov 21 Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Cancelled Florida Sportsman Show
- Dec 10 Play Hooky at the Suncoast Youth Center
- Dec 18 Don Coleman Outing, Ft Desoto

Corporate Sponsors

These companies sponsored the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. Some are members of the club. We urge you to patronize them.

- BARBED STEEL CHARTERS, Capt. Bryon Chamberlin, (813) 361-8801, captbryon@yahoo.com..
- REDFISH LANDING GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. John Hand www.RedfishLandingGuideService.com, (239) 842-7778
- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 ,w www.captpat.com, pat4jaws@hotmail.com
- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grasset, (941) 923-7799, www.snookfin-addict.com
- SWANN'S FLY FISHING SHOP, Jim Swann, 13650 South 98 Bypass, Dade City, 33525, (352) 567-6029
- Carbon Marine, 3916 W. Osborne Ave. Tampa Fl, 33614, 813-870-1234
- Tampa Fishing Outfitters, 3916 W. Osborne Ave, Tampa, FL; 813-870-1234, tampafishingoutfitters.com
- Dave Chouinard, 732-610-9700, Fax: 727-953-6296 ; Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.com



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jwelbourn@carbonmarine.com

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 Grasset (941) 923-7799
- Capt. John Hand (239) 842-7778
- Capt. Greg Peterson (423) 432-1973

Fly Casting Coaches

South Tampa

Steve Parker.....813-287-5583
Walt Durkin.....813-853-5870

North Tampa

Jonas Magnusson.....361 903 2846
Robert Fischer.....813-495-5685
Dan Lagace.....813-929-6605
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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