



## Trash and Treasures Auction

Please join us for our Trash and Treasures meeting on 2 March at Compton Park. You may bring items to **donate** to the club, which we will auction off at the meeting as a club fund raiser. They can be fishing related or not; anything that you do not need and we might sell. Hope to see you there and bring cash or a check to buy stuff. One of our members is donating a 12 ft Old Town canoe that is almost new! We are looking for a good turnout for this meeting and we welcome Mangrove and Suncoast members also.



**Directions to Our Meetings (6:30 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. Check out our fishing report for tips and try to get out on the water.

Thanks to **Captain Keaton Anderson** for his presentation on musky fishing in Tennessee. Keaton had great pictures and offered an informative and interesting talk. Find Keaton at **Tampa Fishing Outfitters** in their fly shop for expert help and advice. Thanks to **Leigh West** for tying his green and gold bend-back, a versatile and useful minnow pattern. And, thanks as always to Smitty for bringing his expertise to our fly tying. Smitty is a great friend of our club and also gave us a grouper sandwich recipe this month.

I will have club fly boxes and flies for new members this year. Please identify yourself at the next meeting for your free gift. We will also have our new club shirts for sale on a first come basis at \$30. New club fly boxes are also available for \$10.

Please remember to pay club dues if you are not current for the year.

//Walt Durkin 

## Quotes for the Month:

"Only when the last tree has been felled, the last river poisoned and the last fish caught, man will know, that he cannot eat money."  
-Cree Indian saying

"The angling fever is a very real disease and can only be cured by the application of cold water and fresh, untainted air. "  
-Theodore Gordon

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin	<b>813-513-2122</b>
<a href="mailto:Walt.durkin@aol.com">Walt.durkin@aol.com</a>	cell <b>813-853-5870</b>
Vice President: Ted Hagaman	813-920-7863
Treasurer: Rick Valeri	813-681-9143
Secretary: Dick Miekka	727-866-8682
<b>Directors</b>	
Patty Anderson	813-787-2556
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

**Smitty and Leigh tying at our February meeting.** Leigh's Green and Gold bendback is a winner. Tie with a gold body, fine brown bucktail, gold flash and generous topping of Peacock hurl. This is a good, weed-less minnow pattern that fishes well over grass.



## TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

### Trash and Treasures Meeting

Our March meeting will feature a Trash and Treasure auction. So, check out your garage or attic and find an item or items you are not using and bring them to the meeting as a donation. We will auction them off as a club fund raiser. We will then use the proceeds to give away local guide trips to members each month. If you can't find anything to donate just come with a few bucks to make the buy of a lifetime! Bring anything you can donate, fishing related or not as we try to raise money for the club. A sneak preview of items is below:

Old Town canoe  
Two-seat kayak with paddles  
Wading shoes  
String ray boots  
Metal detector  
Fly box with flies  
Indiana Jones whip  
4wt fly rod and reel  
Wading belt  
Aluminum anchor  
2# frozen grouper fillets  
Kevin and Hughes 1917 Spy Glass

### Fly Fishers International Fly Tying

FFI is offering fly tying on line in February and March. Check it out at this website:  
<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/FFI-Online>  
FFI supports our sport and I encourage you to check out a membership.

### Fly Casting Coaches

#### South Tampa

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

#### North Tampa

Jonas Magnusson.....361-903-2846

Patty Anderson.....813-787-2556

Robert Fischer.....813-495-5685

Leigh West.....813-971-8697

Ted Hagaman.....813-920-7863

#### St Petersburg

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



# Fly Fishing Tip of the Month

by Jonas Magnusson

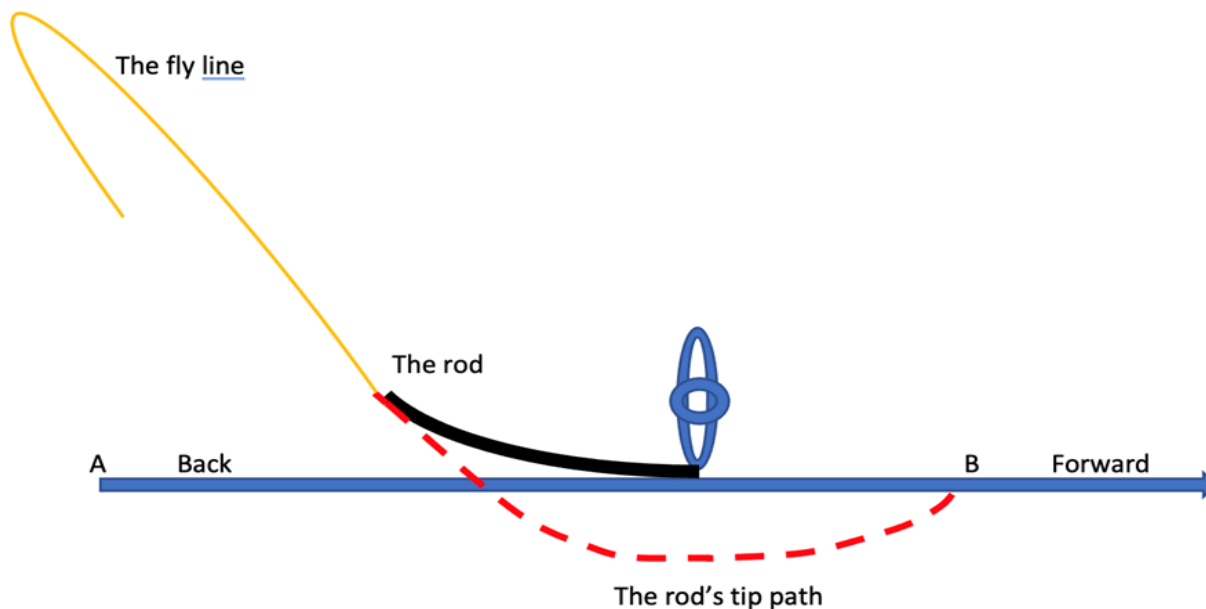
## Tracking

“Why does my fly line hook to the left at the end of my casts, instead of laying out straight?” A kindred southpaw will hook right of course.

This one is a recurrent error. I have suffered from the same malaise. But it is also rather easy to cure. For any successful cure though, the diagnosis must be spot on.

Why? This error happens if the tracking isn't straight.

How? On the backcast – the caster doesn't throw the line straight behind, but well to the left of the caster, as you can see in the diagram.



This happens when the caster opens the wrist way too much in the horizontal plane and sends the line in a great big curve back, thus violating the 180-degree rule. On the forward cast even if the line is reasonably straight it will hook to the left.

The cure – pick your target on the backcast. Aim for something (a tree – an island – anything) that is behind you and cast straight back. One way to practice this is to lay out a rope (any line will do) on the ground in the position of the A-B line on your drawing. Deliver some back-casts and see where the line lands. If left off the line they need to adjust. In the picture, A-B is the straight track casting line, so never let your line cross that line. On the forward cast, you don't cross the A-B line, if you do the line will hook left. On the back-cast look of your reel, if the side plates aren't vertical, you are not tracking straight. So, the cure is - to pick your targets and be sure that the rod tip is traveling straight. When you do - voila - the line lays out straight.

If I can only give one piece of advice - here goes – **WATCH YOUR BACKCASTS**. If I go Yogi Berra on you – “You can learn a lot by just watching.”

However, there are situations when you want the line to curve at presentation. And you are right – those are the curve casts!”

## Spider Fly Bodies from Flipflops

by Ted Rich

Are you punching foam spider bodies using a hand held straight walled cartridge case? There might be an easier way to cut bodies for spiders or poppers by modifying the case. Drilling out the FIRED primer and installing a small bolt with lock nut allows it to be placed in a drill or drill press. A 1 1/4"x 1/8" round-head stove bolt and a 6-32 x 1/8" nylon lock nut were used with 9mm and .45 cases.





## **New Product Feature**

### **GearTOP UPF 50+ Wide Brim Sun Hat**

My wife bought this hat on Amazon last month and really likes it. It is lightweight, adjustable, well made and provides great sun protection. Details on Amazon are below.

**GearTOP UPF 50+ Wide Brim Sun Hat to Protect Against UV Sun Rays for Hiking Camping Fishing Safari**  
4.5 out of 5 stars 17,196 ratings  
-29% savings at \$17.81



## The Golden Days of Winter

Some members may have heard me use the term “golden days” and wonder what I am referring to? Golden days for me occur in winter and are those few magical days where everything comes together for a spectacular day of sight fishing. Take note and seek out these days as they can be precious and scarce. For example, several elements must come together to make it happen.

First of all are the low, negative tides on winter mornings. These are easy to predict; just look at the tide tables online for the area of the bay you will fish. You will find two five-day cycles of good low tides each month from November thru February; thus you have 40 potential days. The next important factor is wind and you seek a north or northeast wind. This helps get the tides to their lowest point and the lower the better. Less important, but nice to have are clear sunny skies. Clear skies allow the best conditions for sight fishing.

Here is the hitch. Of the 40 good, low tide days you may have only 10 to 15 that coincide with the north or northeast wind. And, only perhaps half of them will have sunshine. So, we are down to five or, at best, ten golden days a year! These days offer the best sight fishing of the year and I watch and plan for them as carefully as I can. One example occurred on Valentines Day this year when my Valentine sent me out to fish. This was a Monday and the day after the super bowl. I mention that because I was surprised to find the Cypress flat empty of fisherman. I decided to try the south end as the channel at the far end often holds fish on the extra low tides. A north wind of about 10-15 mph blew the water very low. Reds were milling in the channel as I expected, but, they were a little hard to see on the dark bottom and spooky. After I tried them for 30 minutes with no luck, I walked to the north side where the fish are easier to see. Here, under blue skies I found schools of reds happily roaming up and down the flat. I tried a small dark fly I tie with a grizzly hackle, raccoon fur body and orange hot spot and also one of my tan rat flies. I caught eight reds up to 28 inches over four hours, constantly seeing and casting to redfish. This was a golden day for me and I was disappointed no one else showed up to share it with. The flat comfortably fishes as many as eight anglers as you often pick a spot and wait for the fish to come to you.

Of course you can catch fish when the conditions are not golden. You may find reds tailing on calm, foggy mornings. And, you can still see fish on cloudy days, it's just tougher. But, most importantly, don't miss the low tides that coincide with the north/northeast winds. A golden day will offer your best chance to sight fish multiple cruising and tailing redfish. During January and February 2022 I brought about 30 redfish to hand on these good days, all sight fishing. I hope to see you on the flats to share a “Golden Day”. //Walt

Low tide at the Cypress flat on 14 February  
Strong 28 inch red that swam away happily



2022/02/14 11:28

# Smitty's Fried Grouper Sandwich

## Ingredients

8 (6 oz) grouper fillets

2 large eggs

½ tsp salt, ¼ tsp cayenne pepper

1 cup all-purpose flour, seasoned  
with salt and pepper to taste

cornmeal for dredging the fish

vegetable oil for deep-frying the fish

1 red onion, sliced very thin

leafy butter lettuce

2 tomatoes, sliced thin

8 soft sandwich rolls, split



Beat together eggs, salt and cayenne in a shallow dish. Place flour mixture and cornmeal in separate shallow dishes. Dredge each fillet in flour mixture and dip in egg wash. Dredge fillets in cornmeal last. In a deep fry pan, heat 1" of the oil to 375° F. Fry the fillets in batches for 2 to 4 minutes on each side, or until browned and cooked through. Transfer fillets to paper towels to drain.

Layer the red onion, lettuce, tomatoes, and fillets on the sandwich rolls, accompany with thick cut or waffle fries.

Congratulations to new club member **Jerry Kells** on his first redfish at the Cypress flat. Jerry has shown up at Cypress on the low tides and has put in many hours patiently trying for these spooky reds. His efforts finally paid off with this great red. Now we just have to show Jerry how to take a picture that includes his smiling face!



Club member **Ted Hagaman** with two reds on the Cypress flat on 15 February, another golden day. Ted has also been catching big Crappie in Lake Keystone behind his house.



**Club members Kelly and Wes** are enjoying retirement and had a great trip to the OSA Peninsula in Costa Rica. They stayed at **Crocodile Bay Lodge** and most of the fishing was conventional tackle (Spanish mackerel were caught on fly). They caught blue marlin, sailfish, cuberra snapper, rooster fish, rock snapper, grouper, African pompano, mahi mahi, jacks, and more. Looks like fun and great job!





# Trolling Motor for Sale

Motor Guide W75 Remote Control Trolling Motor;  
24 volt, 48" shaft; very good condition. \$350.

**Call Robert Fischer 813-495-5685**





## Fishing Report and Forecast

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

**Captain Pat Damico reports:** If you can't get out to fly fish because of cold water, high winds, and other winter conditions what is there to do? This is a good time to make sure your equipment is ready for your next outing. If your rod and reel are compatible and in good condition, the next and most important item is your fly line. When I examine a client's equipment, I am often amazed at the condition of their fly lines. Strip the line from the reel and examine the part that you use most. It will be easy to tell because the line left on the reel will look almost new. Using some warm non-detergent liquid soap on a micro towel, run the used line through it folded over in one hand while pulling it through with the other. Do this several times. The dirt on the towel should amaze you. Pull it through a towel with plain water a couple of times and then through a dry paper towel. Inspect the line for damage, if there are major nicks and cracks, a replacement is in order. If the line looks fine, treat it with one of the many liquid line dressings available at your local fly shop, carefully following the manufacturer's instructions. This will restore some of the chemical components and preservatives that make it shoot through the guides and float well. Never store fly lines where the heat and sun will cause irreparable damage. I clean my fly lines after every outing, especially in saltwater. *Fly fisherman 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:** Look for reds, snook and larger trout in shallow water. Fishing deep grass flats of Sarasota Bay is a usually a good choice for action with a variety of species including trout, pompano, blues and more. Snook at night around dock lights in the ICW is also a good option depending on conditions. Our natural resources are under constant pressure from red tides fueled by industrial, agricultural and residential runoff, toxic spills and discharges, 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](mailto:snookfin@aol.com); (941) 923-7799



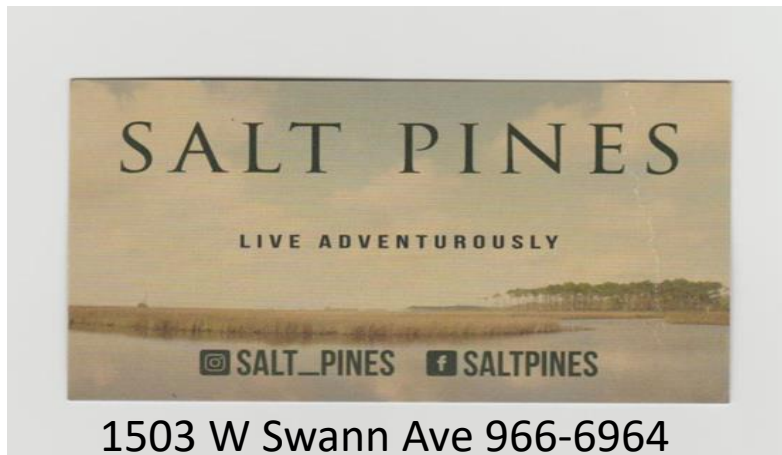
## 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 8 Casting Clinic
- Jan 15 Red Fly Tournament
- June Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct (virtual) Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct Carl Hanson Outing
- Nov Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Cancelled Florida Sportsman Show
- Dec Play Hooky at the Suncoast  
Youth Center
- Dec 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](http://www.RedfishLandingGuideService.com), (239) 842-7778
- 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)
- 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](http://tampafishingoutfitters.com)
- Dave Chouinard, 732-610-9700, Fax: 727-953-6296 ; [Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.com](mailto:Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.com)



**JAFFE|TILCHIN**  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Investment Management  
Trust & Estate Services  
Retirement Planning  
Corporate Benefits  
Insurance Services  
Auto, Home & Business

**RICHARD HAPPLE, CFP®**  
Investment Advisor Representative

15350 N. Florida Ave.  
Tampa, FL 33613

Direct 813.964.4217  
Cell 813.732.5190  
Fax 866.804.2637

[rhapple@jaffetilchin.com](mailto:rhapple@jaffetilchin.com)  
[www.jaffetilchin.com](http://www.jaffetilchin.com)

**Tampa Fishing Outfitters**  
**Largest tackle shop on the W. coast of FL**  
**great fly fishing gear**

3916 W. Osborne Ave. Tampa Fl, 33614

Phone: 813-870-1234

Website: [tampafishingoutfitters.com](http://tampafishingoutfitters.com)

## Carbon Marine

**Inshore fishing boat accessories, push poles and repair**

Joe Welbourn

(813) 928-9887

[jjwelbourn@carbonmarine.com](mailto:jjwelbourn@carbonmarine.com)



# SaltFllys

*Custom Built Saltwater Flies*

CRAIG SMOTHERS

PHONE: (941) 266-5209

5526 SHADY BROOK TR.

EMAIL: SALTFLYS@GMAIL.COM

SARASOTA, FL. 34243

WEBSITE: WWW.SALTFLYS.COM



## The Fly Guy

Capt. Pat Damico

2981 E. Vina del Mar Blvd.  
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Tel. 727-504-8649

Hppt://captpat.com

pat4jaws@hotmail.com

**Barbed Steel Charters, Inc.**  
Specializing In Fly Fishing Along Florida's West Central Gulf Coast



Capt. Bryon Chamberlin  
(813) 361-8801  
captbryon@yahoo.com  
www.barbedsteel.com

USCGI licensed & bonded



### JIM SWANN'S



Complete Fly Fishing Shop

Rods - Reels - Hand Tied Flies - Materials

Guide Service

Classes in Flying Tying and Casting

**352-567-6029**

13650 So. 98 Bypass  
Dade City, FL. 33525

## Chouinard Outdoor Associates, Inc

Phone: 732-610-9700

Fax: 727-953-6296

[Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.com](mailto:Dave@ChouinardOutdoor.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 Grassett (941) 923-7799
- Capt. John Hand (239) 842-7778
- Capt. Greg Peterson (423) 432-1973

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