



New Meeting Place and Day

Northdale Recreation Center
15550 Spring Pine Dr, Tampa, FL
from 0630 to 0830 on **Tuesday,**
10 May

Please join us as we transition to a new meeting place in North Tampa. We will have pizza and drinks to celebrate. We will also give away a fly fishing trip by local guide Keaton Anderson. Additionally, we have a bunch of donated fishing books, which you can peruse to take home.

Dale Garcia is our featured tyer and we welcome other tyers as we will not have a guest speaker.

Please note we will hold future meetings at Northdale on the first Tuesday of the month. //Walt



Directions to Our Meetings (6:30 pm): Take Dale Mabry north past Ehrlich Road and then left on Northdale Blvd. Then left on Spring Pine Drive and straight to the center on the right.

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.

We are trying a new meeting place after a long run at Tampa Palms. Thanks to Dr. Greg Stepanski for his support and to the staff at Tampa Palms. We enjoyed our time there and may try to go back for special events.

Please join us at the Northdale Rec Center as we transition in May. This center is a little more centrally located and we hope to hold or increase attendance. It's a big room with an attached kitchen and areas outside to practice casting. We will meet from 0630 to 0830 pm on the first Tuesday of each month from June onwards.

May is an exception as we will meet on 10 May, the second Tuesday. Most of the club leadership was gone on fishing trips the first Tuesday so we had to bump one week.

//Walt Durkin



Quotes for the Month:

“If I fished only to capture fish, my fishing trips would have ended long ago.” – Zane Grey

“I don’t exaggerate; I just remember big.” – Chi Chi Rodriguez

“It has always been my private conviction that any man who pits his intelligence against a fish and loses has it coming.” – John Steinbeck

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Bruce Anderson	813-786-3902
Keaton Anderson	404-313-7820
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TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

Conservation Update

Tom Logan, Chairman of the FFI Board

Conservation Committee reports: The committee sent a letter to House and Senate Leadership that FFI has endorsed with our many Conservation Partners. The letter provides our collaborative comments and recommendations relative to two important legislative actions. Namely, the relevance to conservation of coastal and ocean ecosystems as fish and wildlife habitat, further solution to carbon sequestration, accelerated effects of ocean acidification and the importance of these actions to a vast outdoor recreation economy. These all are very important conservation issues that affect FFI's success in preserving the legacy of fly fishing for our members and the fly fishing community.

Our members consistently tell us that conservation is a high priority for what they expect FFI to do for them. Please collaborate with other VPs within your Councils to share this message with your respective members to let them know more of the important conservation works we are doing on their behalf.

Redfish Proposed Management Zones

Gina Russo of FWC sent us this: "FWC is proposing a new Redfish Management Approach based on angler/guide feedback at workshops and Redfish Summit. It's more of a holistic approach and we are proposing to manage redfish in 9 specific (smaller) management zones and changing some of the limits. Prohibit Captain and crew from keeping their catch and changed the vessel and off the water limits. They also want to extend the current EO for SW closure until Commissioners make a final ruling. See the charts on the next page for more info."

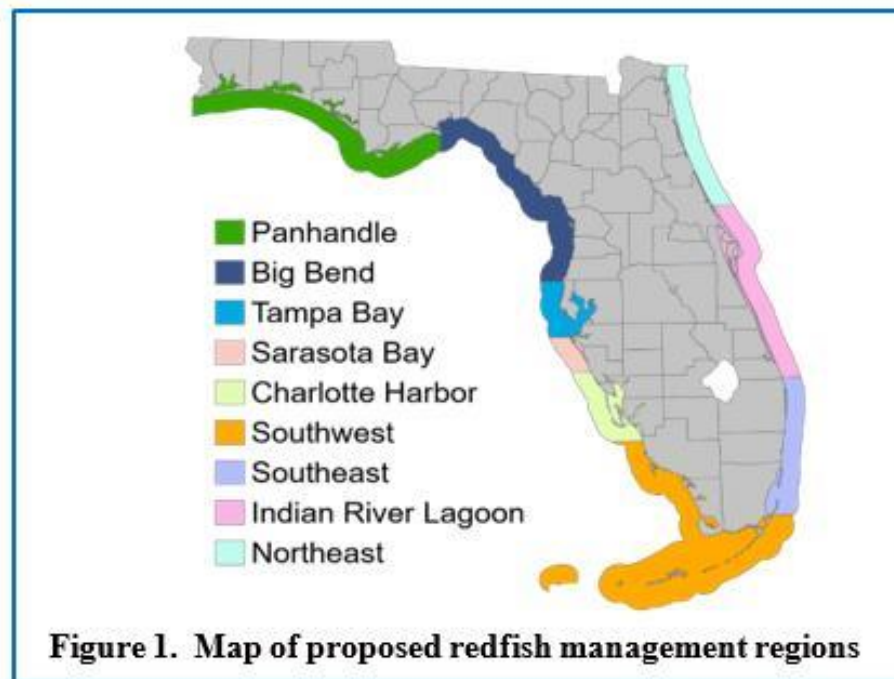
'Please let Gina know what your thoughts are regarding this proposal. Support all of it, parts of it, none of it with some other suggestions for management. I need to get this feedback sooner than later because it will be going to the Commission meeting early May 2022.'

Gina Russo
Division of Marine Fisheries Management
Recreational Outreach and Education
100 Eighth Ave. SE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Cell: 1-(727) 638-1009
Gina.Russo@MyFWC.com



New Management Approach

- The new approach moves beyond a single management metric and three large management regions and facilitates the intentional incorporation of additional metrics to guide management decisions for the fishery on a more local scale.
 - Management metrics:
 - Escapement
 - Relative abundance
 - Harmful algal blooms – (red tide)
 - Habitat
 - Fishing effort
 - Stakeholder feedback
 - Nine proposed management regions (Figure 1).



Proposed Regulations

Statewide:

- Prohibit captain and crew from retaining a bag limit when on a for-hire trip.
- Transport limit: reduce from 6 fish to 4 fish per person

Regional:

Proposed Region	Bag Limit		Vessel Limit	
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
Panhandle	1 fish	1 fish	8 fish	4 fish
Big Bend	1 fish	2 fish	8 fish	4 fish
Tampa Bay	1 fish	1 fish	8 fish	2 fish
Sarasota Bay	1 fish	1 fish	8 fish	2 fish
Charlotte Harbor	1 fish	1 fish	8 fish	2 fish
Southwest	1 fish	1 fish	8 fish	2 fish
Southeast	1 fish	1 fish	8 fish	2 fish
Indian River Lagoon	1 fish	Catch-and-release only	8 fish	Catch-and-release only
Northeast	2 fish	2 fish	8 fish	4 fish

Fly Casting Tip of the Month

by Jonas Magnusson

Fly casting tip 4

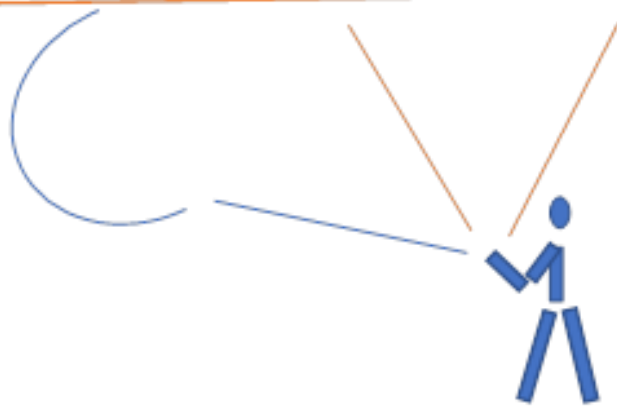
The April tip considered what happens when we bend our wrist too much on our backcast. Now, on to the forward cast. The same rule applies. The backcast and the forward cast should be symmetric. Therefore, we need to stop the rod high on the forward cast to send the line straight. Beginners frequently bring the rod tip too far down instead of stopping it higher. That leads the fly line to form a big inefficient loop going nowhere (bottom diagram). What we really want to do is to stop the rod tip high and shape the top leg (fly leg) straight.



Here rod is stopped too low. A common mistake.



Here rod is stopped correctly resulting in a tighter loop.



Rod-tip banged down -

line in a big loop

Correct stops - line goes straight

Growing Up Fishing in West Palm Beach

I believe I was born at a good time in history in the year 1948. Those were, in many ways, simpler times where we had hope for a bright future in a post-war America. They were also great times for a young boy to grow and enjoy all the outdoors had to offer.

My Dad owned and built a trailer park west of town along the old Military Trail. Open fields, canals and old shell pits were within a walk or bike ride of our home. I was allowed to roam, explore and fish on my own or with friends. As long as I arrived home before dark all was well.

I started out with a cane pole and spinning gear. I remember one of my first fish was a catfish caught on the cane pole with a strip of bacon for bait. I proudly brought that fish home for dinner much to my Mother's chagrin.

My Dad loved to fish and we went many times for bass in the canals or to the intercostal for mackerel, bluefish and pompano. Fish were plentiful then and we brought enough home to feed ourselves and friends in the trailer park.

As I got older I fished quite a bit off the old Lake Worth pier. We would arrive an hour before daylight to catch goggle-eye for live bait and keep them in a wire basket. You would then hook one behind the dorsal and try to get it to swim out about 100 yards from the pier. We were mostly after big kingfish, but also caught little tunny and barracuda. The pier was also well-known for catches of sailfish. The best scenario was a west wind and to use a balloon to float the goggle-eye out about 200 hundred yards or more. The Gulf Stream runs pretty close along the shore there and brought the sailfish in range.

My favorite fish though were snook from the bridges or the Lake Worth spillway. The bridges were great fun at night and you could see the snook stacked under the lights. Here we mostly used jigs on bait casting outfits fishing the moving tides. Great fun and baby tarpon also showed up from time to time.

The spillway, however, was my favorite haunt for many reasons. Mainly, you could fish and find snook there almost 24 hours a day. And since I lived nearby that was no problem. Someone once said they noticed I was always there when the snook were biting. That is because I did go often and I could fish about 15 minutes and tell if the snook were on or not. This spillway was a beautiful place to fish. The canal came from the west on its journey to the intercostal. Holding the water back were boards across the openings of five tunnels for the water to flow through. When they wanted to let more water out they had to come and remove some boards. Water levels were subject to change depending on how much rain we got. Thus, summer rains resulted in good flows, which the snook loved. All kinds of fresh water bait would flush through attracting snook and jacks. I once stood on the end of the seawall and caught 19 snook in a row. Back then, you could keep four over 18 inches, but we let most of them go.

I learned to fish the spillway the same way you would a trout stream. With different flows from the canal plus the rise and fall of the tide, conditions were always changing. We fished mostly from the seawall on the north side and you had about 100 yards of flowing water to fish. The width was about one long cast. In this area you had rock ledges and two rows of pilings to break up the flow. These were under water except on the lowest tides. Given these conditions, you really had to read the water to identify where the fish were laying in that often fast water.

Most fisherman did not get that and just cast out and reeled back in. This worked sometimes when the snook were fired up on bait, but most of the time they were in pockets waiting on an easy meal. I would arrive and pick an open spot on the seawall and pause to take a good look at the water level and flow. I would then cast above a good spot and let the lure drop down and into a strike zone. If the fish were there and feeding I often hooked up. To land the fish you walked down to the end of the seawall to the water. Usually, someone would go and take the spot I had been in. I would then go to another open spot and start again and soon hookup. You really had to understand that water and get your lure down in the right area for success. I learned that through hundreds of hours of trial and error.

I made many good friends as the spillway was a popular spot; some folks fished almost every day like me. One friend who sticks in my mind was Barney Manchester from New Jersey. He owned gas stations and his wife Violet worked in a sewing factory. They came every winter, stayed in motels and snook fished. Barney was a good looking 40 years old, and Violet was about 10 years younger and beautiful. I really thought that guy had it made. A sporting life in New Jersey in the summer and winter fishing in Florida with a hot wife.

Another fishing friend was a guy named Buck. He only fished with a red and white mirror lure and caught plenty of snook. It should have been obvious, but when new people asked what he was using he always said a live bumble bee. Buck also lived on a lake where he hand fed panfish to bass.

Since this is a fly club, I had better add something about fly fishing. I made my first fly rod from a blank I bought. If I remember correctly, it was about 8 feet and a five weight. I spent many hours fishing little poppers and sponge spiders for bass and blue gill. Those shell pits I mentioned were close to home and great fun with clear water. And, most of the canals were loaded with happy bass. When the rains came, some canals flowed like streams and the bass chased bait.

Unfortunately, I did not do any salt water fly fishing in those early years. After my wife and I were assigned to USCENTCOM and moved to Tampa, I started saltwater fly fishing in Tampa Bay in 1998. My favorite fly fishing now in home waters is sight fishing for reds during the winter. I consider myself lucky after 65 years of fishing to have relatively clear, clean water to wade fish in Tampa Bay. I hope you enjoyed these memories and I will look for you on the flat on a good low tide day. //Walt Durkin, April 2022.

Club member Ken Moser has been making murals for the Florida Aquarium. He says: “I think this will be the last one for the aquarium. It measures 6' X 18" and will go in the Learning area of Area D. It contains most of the elements from previous windows that I did for them.” Ken

Good job Ken on a worthy project. Our local aquarium is very cool and I encourage a visit. They also do research and conservation work.



Here are two pictures of my NuCanoe casting bar. It is designed to help you stand up in the kayak. But, as you can see, I mounted one on my casting platform to keep me from falling off. At waist-high, it is just the right height to grab when you need it, but not to interfere with poling. They are very well made, stable and fold down when traveling or not in use. Hopefully, this will keep me on the platform for a few more years. Buy one on the NuCanoe website. P.S. Sorry for the boring pictures. I should have a good shot of me in action up there.



Pasta Shrimp in a White Wine Sauce

I made this shrimp and pasta dish for a quick and easy meal while my wife was in Colorado.

I found the recipe on line for a white wine sauce for the pasta and then added mushrooms, baby tomatoes and shrimp.

The sauce link is: <https://food52.com/recipes/87122-best-white-wine-sauce-recipe>

The shrimp came from Versaggi Shrimp shop, which is open Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays, from 9 to 3.

LOCATION: 2633 Causeway Blvd, Tampa, FL 33619

The Versaggi family has been shrimping since 1912. Versaggi Shrimp now has six boats that spend as much as 30 days at a time at sea in the Gulf of Mexico. They do keep some of their fresh catch in small freezers inside the “fishhouse” to sell to the public, cash-only. Versaggi said they offer 2-pound and 5-pound boxes, year-round.

These are the best and freshest shrimp in Tampa Bay! I buy the five pound box and divided them into smaller meal-size containers.

Stop by and check them out!



John Kumiski

13 Summers in Alaska

Stories to Warm You
Through a Long Winter

Club member Nick Colantonio recommends this book for us.

John Kumiski is an award-winning travel and outdoor writer and photographer whose books include *Redfish on the Fly*. He lives in Chuluota, Florida.

Great stories come out of the Great Land! This collection of Alaska stories is based on John Kumiski's thirteen summers working in Alaska, guiding fishermen, hikers, bear- and whale-watchers, and glacier enthusiasts.

The stories in this book are recollections of extraordinary things that happened while we were out adventuring - some good, some not so good. You'll find funny stories, educational stories, and there might be a couple raw ones. You'll find a poignant one here and there.

Curl up next to the wood stove, and let this collection of great stories from Alaska fill you with warm feelings!

Patty and Bruce Anderson fished with Patty's brother John near Gunnison, Co. They stayed at the Three Rivers Resort in Almont, CO. The cabins are located on the Taylor river and reasonably priced. They caught big rainbows and browns fishing the Gunnison, East and Taylor rivers. Patty says it was a great option with several close rivers.



I took my kayak and fished the south Cypress flat. We usually fish to the north in the winter on the low tides, but the south side is also good. That far shore along 275 often holds cruising reds and snook on a moving tide. I saw several reds and could not get them to eat. I did, however, hook three snook and landed the one on the right. He hit a tan Kwan fly. I saw quite a few snook and they were more cooperative than the reds.

Check out the south side some time. You can wade it on lower water, but best fished with a kayak on higher tides. Oyster bars on the east end will also hold fish, but the bottom is a little soft there.



Club member Greg Stepanski fished out west in the Provo River and had a great day. Greg hooked over 25 and landed 15 using 6X and number 26 flies. He caught several on the fly reel he bought at our auction donated by Bill Murdich. Good job Greg!



Club member Eric Flachbart emailed us from Pakistan where he is working and hopes to fish. We wish Eric well on this great adventure!

“Hi Walt. This is not fishing related as the water was still too filled with glacial silt. But I am up in northern Pakistan in the Himalaya and Karakoram mountains. The first pic is of an Ibex. The second is the Hunza river, which I will go back to fish when the water clears. Lots of trout in it. I am working here for a couple of years designing dialysis machines as the country has no such equipment”.



Club member Tim Duke reports: “My son, Brian Duke, and I went on an Orvis half day trip on April 3rd. Cold conditions - in the 30’s with 30 mile hour winds. Beautiful river and we caught 8 trout (Brian caught 7 and I caught 1.)” They fished out of Banner Elk, North Carolina in the Watauga River.



Kelly and Wes Sobczak had a good trip south: “We fished southwest Florida - western Everglades, 10,000 islands, and Estero River/Bay. Water was pretty muddy, but we managed to catch baby tarpon, snook, sea trout, and other miscellaneous species.” Good job you guys!



Trolling Motor For Sale

Club member Robert Fischer is selling this trolling motor. Motor Guide W75 Remote Control Trolling Motor; 24 volt, 48" shaft; very good condition. \$350. Call Robert at 813-495-5685.



Fishing Report and Forecast

“What a great time to go fishing!”

Captain Pat Damico reports: Golden Rule on the Water. Warmer weather and improved inshore fishing conditions will have more people on the water, especially on weekends. This can adversely affect shallow-water fly fishers. Trout, snook, and redfish present more challenges as well as rewards when they can be sight fished. Nothing is more exciting than having a visible fish in shallow water take a well-presented fly or small artificial bait after a careful stalk. For this to happen, the fish has to be happy or free of stress. To be successful, the fish's resistance to finding plentiful food in clear, shallow water must be overcome. Predators, winged and swimming, are constant issues, but careless other fishermen and boaters become an increasing problem because of our large population that is attracted to the water. If you see a shallow watercraft or waders fishing in skinny water, it is best to keep your distance. They often have spent considerable time and effort getting to this spot and a visitor on a personal watercraft or other watercraft will disrupt their effort. Practice the golden rule, especially in the shallows.

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: Anglers fishing with me, out of CB's Saltwater Outfitters on Siesta Key, had good action catching and releasing numerous snook in Gasparilla Sound and trout in Sarasota Bay on DOA Lures recently. Fly anglers also scored with trout on Clouser flies on deep grass flats of Sarasota Bay and Little Sarasota Bay. 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, Spanish mackerel and more. 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; (941) 923-7799



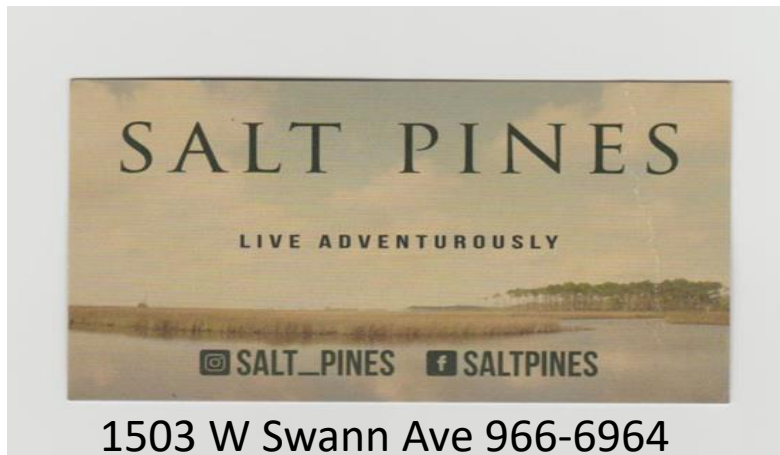
2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 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

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- REDFISH LANDING GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. John Hand www.RedfishLandingGuideService.com, (239) 842-7778
- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 ,w ww.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
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The Fly Guy

Capt. Pat Damico

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Http://captpat.com

pat4jaws@hotmail.com

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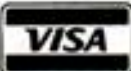
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Member Benefits

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

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North Tampa

Jonas Magnusson.....361 903 2846

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

Leigh West813-971-8697

Ted Hagaman.....8-3-920-7863

St. Petersburg

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

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