



Trash and Treasures Auction

Please join us for our “Trash and Treasures “ meeting on Tuesday, 6 June. This meeting will feature a Trash and Treasures auction. 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) Northdale Rec Center: Take Dale Mabry north past Ehrlich Road and then left on Northdale Blvd. Then left on Spring Pine Drive and straight to the Rec Center on the right.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you all enjoyed our last meeting where we explored fishing Florida's state parks. Many thanks to Kelly for her talk. I missed it, but heard great reviews. Kelly and Wes will make a 3-month long trip from Florida to Alaska this year in their RV and we look forward to hearing about those adventures as they fish along the way.

We try to provide good, hands-on fly fishing advice to members, but nothing beats getting on the water and trying it for yourself. Let us know how we can help as we encourage you to get out there. Snook will migrate to the beaches now, so bring your fly rod along and try to spot some in the clear water.

Our July meeting is cancelled as it falls on July 4th. We will have an outing at Lake Calm on Saturday, 8 July.

Experienced members will be available at 5:30 as casting lessons continue thru the spring and summer. Bring your own rod or we will have one. You can also arrange one-on-one help with a coach. They are listed at the end of our newsletter. Don't miss this opportunity for first class casting instruction.

Fly Fishing Quotes

"To go fishing is the chance to wash one's soul with pure air, with the rush of the brook, or with the shimmer of sun on blue water. It brings meekness and inspiration from the decency of nature, charity toward tackle-makers, patience toward fish, a mockery of profits and egos, a quieting of hate, a rejoicing that you do not have to decide a darned thing until next week. And it is discipline in the equality of men - for all men are equal before fish."
~ *Herbert Hoover*

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin	813-513-2122
Walt.durkin@aol.com	cell 813-853-5870
VP: Ted Hagaman	813-920-7863
Rick Valeri	813-765-3217
Patty Anderson	813-787-2556
Denise Bruner	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



TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

FFI's New Conservation Paradigm

Fly Fishers International proposes a new vision that acknowledges conservation of fish and wildlife habitats as an important commitment to protecting our planet from the impacts of climate change. Agencies charged with managing our natural landscapes and the plant communities they represent have historically done a commendable job when given the financial and policy support necessary for success. Higher priority needs to be placed on preserving the health and function of these natural landscapes for their global value. For this reason we've released "A New Conservation Paradigm." This proposal outlines recommendations for accomplishing this new approach. It is our hope that others, especially those involved in conservation work, will recognize the critical role these habitats play and join us in our efforts to preserve them.

Patrick Berry
President & CEO, Fly Fishers International

Tom Logan
Chairman, Fly Fishers International Board
Conservation Committee
Senior Advisor – Conservation

Local Conservation News

I mention conservation issues in our newsletter when I get a chance. For example I will include emails from Tom Logan who chairs the Fly Fishers International Conservation Committee in Florida. FFI and their conservation committee work hard in Florida and across the U.S. on clean water issues. Much thanks to Tom for his work with FFI. Other organizations our club supports include the Tarpon and Bonefish Trust, the Florida chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association, Captains for Clean Water and Tampa Bay Waterkeepers. Thanks to all those folks for their hard work in our community and Florida. I urge you to check them out and help where you can.

Tampa Bay remains at risk for pollution and habitat loss. Our seagrass is in decline and sewage spills in the bay are too common. We are also losing mangrove shoreline as I was reminded on a recent trip out of the Gandy boat ramp. I went north and passed under the Howard Franklin to fish the south end of the Cypress flat. I was distressed to see the new I-275 bridge has taken away probably two thirds of the south mangrove shoreline. I have fished that shoreline for 20 years and am sorry to see it go in the name of progress. Equally distressing, we stopped at the flat just north of the Gandy and found that shoreline altered by a new development along S Westshore. They also added a rock jetty in the middle of the flat for some reason. That is another great flat we have fished for years looking for snook and reds. Unfortunately despite ongoing conservation efforts, we continue to chip away at the health of Tampa Bay, our most valuable resource.



Lake Calm Outing 8 July

Please join the club for this easy and fun outing on Lake Calm in Odessa. The club will provide lunch and drinks. Bring your canoe or kayak to fly fish this crystal clear lake for bass and pan fish. Any light fly rod will work with a 8 pound leader. I will bring my Ghennoe and have room for two new people to show them the ropes. We will open the gates at 6:30 AM, fish till about 11:30 AM and finish with lunch. Take the Veterans north to the Van Dyke road exit, turn left and go to Gunn Hwy. Turn right and watch for Bonnie Cove Lane on your left after about one mile. Turn left on Bonnie Cove and go straight to the property and thru the gate.



Smitty's White Widow

Smitty writes: Walt ... Here's a fly that I tied for Robert Fischer to test for me a while back ... he took one look at it and his mouth said "O.K. I'll give it a try" but his 'eyes' said "Smitty, this fly won't catch diddly". I got a call from him from on the water. "Smitty, I'll never doubt you again. I wasn't having much luck today, so I decided , what the heck, let me try Smitty's fly. I WILL NEVER DOUBT YOU AGAIN. My first three casts I caught three *HUGE* trout each one larger than the last".

This is a proven fly on Tampa Bay for Trout, Snook, and Ladyfish, as well as Tarpon and Redfish (for Redfish use a sink tip or full sinking line to get the fly down; it is very buoyant).

Materials:

Hook: Mustad 3407 size 1 - 1/0 (or your favorite saltwater hook)

Thread: Chartreuse flat waxed nylon

Tail: White Rabbit zonker strip (Magnum)*

Flash: Micro Flashabou

Body: White Body Fur**

Eyes: 8mm (5/32") molded eyes

Coating: Softex

Weedguard: Optional (your favorite style)



Tying Sequence:

Step 1: Tie in thread above hook point and wrap back to bend. Tie in a zonker strip and post with about 10 wraps of thread to stand tail up slightly. (This will help to keep from fouling.)

Step 2: Tie in pearl Flashabou. (About 2 strands doubled and splayed back on either side of the zonker.)

Step 3: Tie in the leading edge of body fur and palmer as you would a hackle feather. Stroke material back after each wrap so you don't matt it down. Tie off and cut excess body fur away.

Step 4: Back-wrap over the leading edge of body fur to make it lay back. Taper head and whip finish.

Step 5: Glue on molded eyes with FletchTite Gel. Apply color with markers to show gills and other markings if you like.

Step 6: Apply *thin* coat of Softex to the top of the fly between eyes to create a diving head (similar to Dahlberg Diver). Too heavy of a coat will deform the head of the fly when it dries.

Casting Tip: Striping Baskets

Striping baskets are useful tools to keep track of your line while fishing. I don't use one most of the time, but know several very good fly fisherman who use one all the time while wade fishing. I just don't like to fuss with one, but they are necessary under certain conditions. First, if you encounter floating grass in the water, then the baskets helps keep your line clear. Your fly line seems to attract grass, which will in turn inhibit your casting. The second case is when you are beach fishing. Both the sand and surf will wreck havoc on your ability to cast and control your line. Thus, I do own a basket and use it when necessary. You can make one on your own or buy one for not too much money. Everyone should probably have one and learn to use it. Two examples are shown below. Attached to your waist, they simply hold your line between casts.



Featured Fly Fishing Product – Foxelli Wading Boots

I bought a pair for my wife and liked them so much I bought a pair for myself. I fished them for a week in North Carolina and they held up well and were comfortable for wading and hiking. Find them online as described below on their website:

LIGHTWEIGHT & COMFORTABLE – Made of soft microfiber, Foxelli wading boots are designed to make your fishing or hunting outings more comfortable. Forget about sore feet – Foxelli wader boots supply plenty of support. Removable, OrthoLite insoles offer relief and protection, shock absorbent midsoles minimize impact on joints, and flexible upper assures freedom of movement.

DURABLE & RELIABLE GEAR – Sturdy and well constructed with a nice fit and finish, these wader boots are built to last. The shoes stay comfortable on the hike and sturdy in the water. Tear and abrasion resistant, durable, and breathable plaid nylon ensure they hold up well in various conditions and water flow. Lightweight yet sturdy and strong, Foxelli wader boots deliver on both quality and performance.



Fly Fishing Film Show in Tampa 7 May

The Fly Fishing Film Tour was presented by Tampa Bay Waterkeeper, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to protecting, improving and preserving the Tampa Bay watershed.

The annual Fly Fishing Film Tour is a traveling roadshow of the best fly fishing films in the world. Through a submission process, films are selected to bring some of the best content to the big screen. The F3T is more than just the film: the shows aim to create community, inspire, encourage and support conservation efforts worldwide and right at home in Tampa Bay. The showing was complete with a live emcee, raffle and door prizes from premium sponsors, local fly shops and more. This was an excellent opportunity, for camaraderie, all the while helping to raise money for the waters we love. The cinematography was inspiring and a lot of fun to watch!

Many club members attended this fun event and supported TampaBay Waterkeepers! Additionally, Kelly and Denise won raffle prizes. Good job ladies!



Ken Moser's Art

Club member Ken is a talented jewelry maker and also works in stained glass. He volunteers at the Florida Aquarium and has made them several pieces. Ken sends us this update:

“At my suggestion, the marketing department of the Florida Aquarium readily accepted my offer to make a piece for their area. They provided me with what animals they wanted included.

Attached is the finished piece. This represents the 15th window that is hanging at the aquarium along with many more given to staff. I have also provided pieces to aid in their recruitment of donors for the aquariums expansion. To date the pieces have been given out to donors who have contributed over 3.3 million dollars, Granted they would have donated anyway but it still feels good.

Very proud that something I created is hanging at one of the best Aquariums in the country and aided in their expansion plans. Based on what I've seen, they will be there long after I'm gone.”

Ken



Hazel Creek Adventure 29 Apr to 5 May

Walt Durkin and Ted Hagaman drove to Hazel Creek near Fontana Dam, North Carolina to camp and fish for five days. According to Wikipedia, “**Hazel Creek** is a tributary stream of the Little Tennessee River in the southwestern Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. The creek's bottomlands were home to several pioneer Appalachian communities and logging towns before its incorporation into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Hazel Creek is now a back country campsite and historical area.”

The Hazel Creek area remains one of the most remote regions of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and is accessible only by boat and foot. The Fontana Village Marina provides ferry access (via pontoon boat) to both Eagle Creek and Hazel Creek. The ferry ride to Hazel Creek costs \$50 per person and takes about 20 minutes. From there, you hike 5 to 10 miles along a forest service road to several designated camp sites. Pack hanging cables are needed as the creek area is frequented by black bears.

Hazel creek is considered the best trout stream in the Smokey Mountains and holds good numbers of wild brook, brown and rainbow trout. I found it tricky to fish with some high banks and fast water and averaged one trout per day. Ted with more experience on the creek averaged five trout per day on dry flies and nymphs. Good hatches appeared each day and dry fly fishing was usually best in the afternoon. We caught mostly rainbow trout from 6 to 10 inches and 1 brown trout. The brook trout live further up Hazel Creek near the headwater and in tributaries. Ted fished high up on one day, but did not have much luck. However, Hazel Creek holds big rainbow and brown trout and unfortunately we were unable to catch a trophy size fish on the trip.

With our packs coming in at about 45 pounds we decided to use beach carts to haul our gear. The hike in is not too long, but uphill as you gain a couple of thousand feet. Our little carts worked just fine and we got there with energy to spare in 2 ½ hours. Ted prepared all our camp food and we ate well for six days and five nights. Country ham and pancakes highlighted two mornings and two trout dinners were spectacular. Mornings were cold, in the high thirties, but warmed quickly after 10 AM and sunshine. We caught pretty nice weather with only a little rain on our second day. Camp fires were best in the morning to warm up and we turned in early after fishing and hiking all day. We filtered clear water from the stream and found a couple of springs coming out of the mountain you could just drink from. Two campers reported seeing bears the night before we arrived, but we did not find any. We stayed at the Hike Inn on our first and last nights. The rooms are small, but very comfortable with good, hot showers. The drive is 650 miles and takes between 11 and 12 hours.

Hazel Creek is really a treasure, isolated, remote, open to anyone willing and able to make an effort. Camping was hard on my old bones, but well worth it. Many thanks to my great friend Ted for guiding me on this unique experience and I hope to return again.





Club member Tim Duke sent us this:

“My son Brian and I went on our fourth Orvis guided trip on the Watauga River near Blowing Rock, North Carolina. Nonstop action. Caught and missed numerous fish.

It was 32 degrees when we first got on the water, but warmed up later in the day which made it enjoyable.”

Tim Duke





Trout Creek Fishing

Club members Robert, Ted and Jim fished Trout Creek from kayaks and found bass and pan fish. Ted fished a gurgler and caught nice bass.

12550 Morris Bridge Rd

12550 Morris Bridge Rd, Thonotosassa, FL 33592





Club member Greg Stepanski fished with his son Brian and daughter-in-law Callie on the Provo River in Utah near Sundance catching trout. They were guided by my Aaron Adams with Fremont River Guides.





Patty and Bruce Anderson fished the Arkansas river near Salida, CO for a few days and caught some nice browns and rainbows.



Club member Robert Fischer took his annual trip to the Florida Keys, fishing offshore for mahi mahi. He got some hard fighting little guys on his ballyhoo fly shown.



Gasparilla Island Snook

My wife and I traveled to Gasparilla Island to spend the week with Ted and Kathy Hagaman in mid-May. They have been going there for 30 years and we have joined them in recent years. We rent a two-bedroom condo (Sea Oaks) on the beach to relax and fish for the week. The condo is located about a mile from Gasparilla Pass and the beach usually provides good snook fishing. This year the snook were just starting to come out on the beach and the fishing was slow. The few snook we saw were small males and very spooky in the clear water. However, we had a good outgoing hill tide in the pass and fished there among the docks after dark. The hill tide flushed out many shrimp each night and the snook eagerly chased them. We had good luck with shrimp flies and caught multiple snook each night until the tide died. We also lost several big fish as they went for the dock and snapped 30 pound test leaders. Loads of fun and very exciting fishing at night. As luck would have it, Ted stayed another week with his family and reported catching three nice snook on the beach the morning after we left. A couple of the big fish we managed to land pictured below along with the shrimp fly, tied with craft fur, Kwan style, in light tan.



Shrimp fly



Antique Fishing Tackle Show, Sale & Auction Saturday, June 10, 2023 – 9 AM to 5 PM



The Location:

The Dolphin Beach Resort, 4900 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach (1-800-237-8916)

The Show:

Join Florida's most knowledgeable collectors of vintage fishing tackle for a fascinating show. Examine thousands of historic lures, reels rods and memorabilia with some dating back to the 1800's. Florida's history is rich with stories of early lure makers from the Pinellas County area. Admission is only \$3 for adults.

The Sale:

Angling artifacts are one of today's most highly prized collectibles. Hundreds of items will be offered for sale priced from \$2 and up.

The Auction: *Bring your Old Tackle Box!*

If grandpa's old tackle box – or even some of your own tackle from the '30's, '40's or '50's – is gathering dust in your attic or garage – you can consign it to have it auctioned off to top-paying collectors. ANTIQUE REELS, BAMBOO FLY RODS, OLD FLY REELS, OLD LURES, ANYTHING ANTIQUE OR VINTAGE RELATING TO FISHING IS WANTED FOR CONSIGNMENT IN THE AUCTION! The member only auction is attended by over 100 of the state's top collectors. Free appraisals will be given Saturday from 9 AM to 5 PM. \$3 admission for adults, children free.

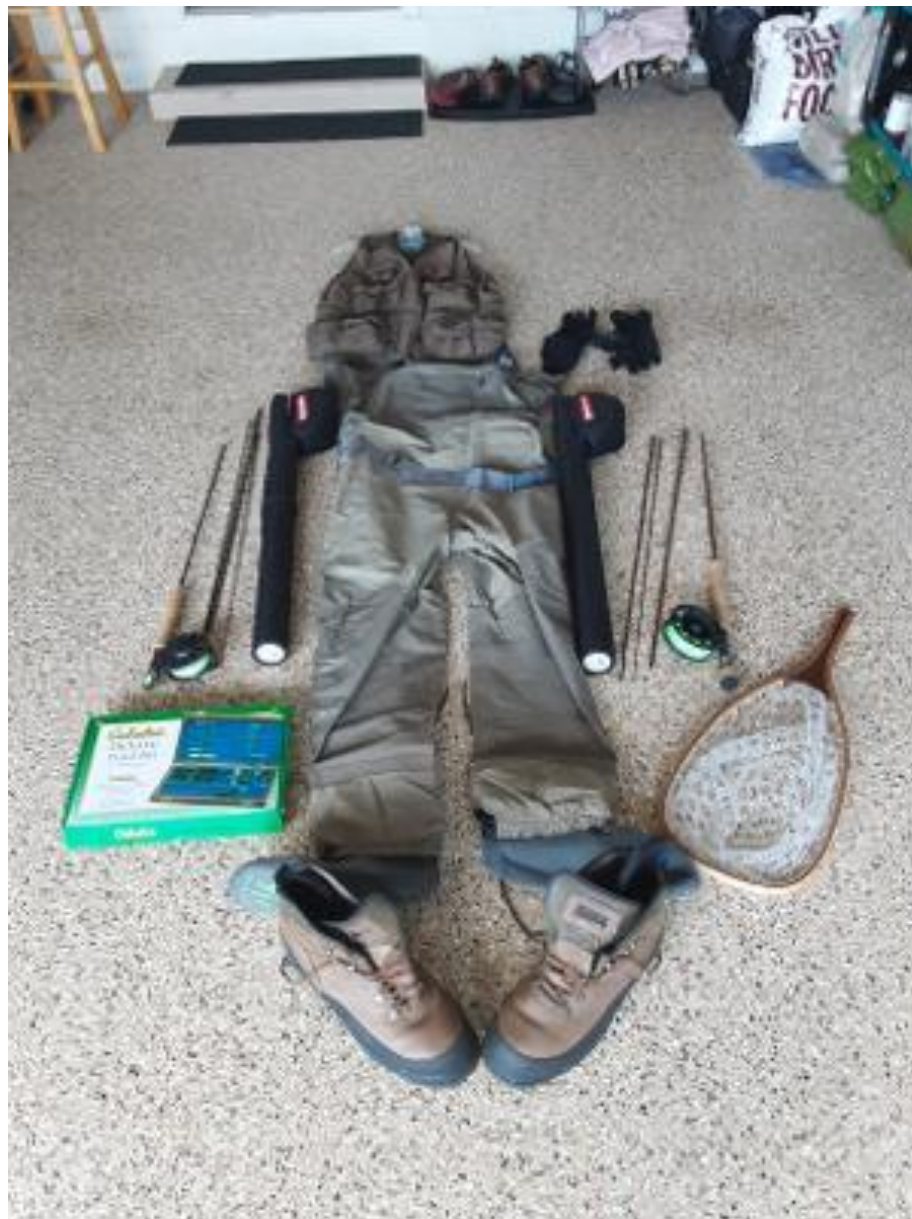
More Info?

Call Ron Gast at 407-496-7940

Fly Gear for Sale

Tom Perkins is selling these items as one unit. Would rather not piece it out. Some beginner looking for a complete outfits, both fresh and salt water: Tom Perkins 352-467-1644 call, text or leave msg. \$500 takes it all!

- 1pr-Orvis boots w/removable studs size 10
- 1pr- Orvis Silver Sonic waders Size XLS X(xtra large short)
- 1- Redington Classic Trout rod w/case mod. 590-4 9'0" #5 line
- 1-Redington Pursuit reel 4/5/6 w/ line & backing
- 1- Redington Pursuit rod w/case 890-4 #8 line 9'0"
- 1- Redington Pursuit reel 7/8/9 w/ line & backing
- 1- Cabela's deluxe fly tying tool kit w/ thread, feathers etc.
- 1- Nylon net
- 1- Vest, Master Sportsman mesh XXL W/ many pockets and fishing gloves(fingers can be covered).



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!”

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

Getting a trout, redfish and snook on the same outing with a fly rod is very challenging. Increase your chances by concentrating on lighted docks and bridges. We often go out a few hours before daylight and can usually fish without seeing another boat, especially on weekdays. Trout and snook have been the primary targets; reds can be very regional and docks near flats that hold reds during the day are always preferred. The tide must be moving to produce feeding frenzies that often allow doubles when two fly casters are working carefully covering an area. Position one caster on each end of the boat. Rather than anchor, a bow mounted electric trolling motor will keep your boat in the proper position parallel to the shoreline. Use it to get large fish away from barnacle encrusted pilings that ruin fly lines and break off fish. Baby tarpon have been a recent bonus and will require a quick accurate cast as they usually do not hang around like other species. Use a 30 pound shock tippet and white baitfish patterns that match the size of bait around the lights. Crimp all barbs to make releasing easier. Respect the dock owner's privacy or you will find the light out on your next trip.

Capt Rick Grasset reports: Look for reds and snook in skinny water. Deep grass flats are usually a good option for action with trout, blues, pompano, Spanish mackerel and more. Snook fishing around dock lights and bridges should also be a good option now. Our natural resources are under constant pressure from red tides and other algae blooms fueled by residential, industrial and agricultural runoff, toxic spills and intentional releases, freezes, increasing fishing pressure and habitat loss and degradation, please limit your kill, don't kill your limit!

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



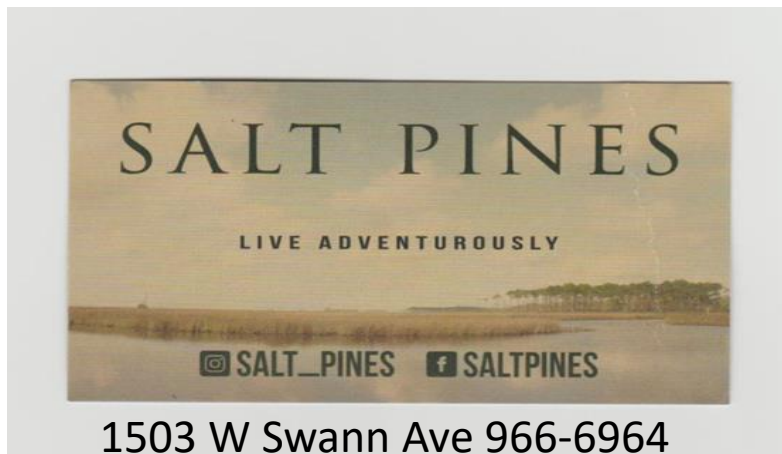
2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan Casting Clinic
- Jan Red Fly Tournament
- 11 Mar Picnic Island Outing
- Mar Annual Banquet
- July 8 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct 21 Carl Hanson Outing
- Nov 8-14 Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov 19 Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Dec 8 Play Hooky at the Suncoast
Youth Center
- Dec 17 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



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The Fly Guy

Capt. Pat Damico

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pat4jaws@hotmail.com

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

Fly Casting Coaches

South Tampa

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

North Tampa

Jonas Magnusson.....361 903 2846

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

Leigh West813-971-8697

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

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: \$40.00 Individual Membership

\$50.00 Family Membership

\$150.00 Corporate Single Membership

(includes one membership and Ad Space)

Five-year dues: \$160.00 Individual Membership

\$200.00 Family Membership

Please make check payable to: Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club C/O Walt Durkin at 3401
W Vasconia St, Tampa, FL 33629