

Jay Tinsky has been an avid fly fisher since 1994. Like many, he saw the movie, A River Runs Through It, and was captivated by the movie. He has fished all over the world. He likes to say, " if I see a puddle, I contemplate casting a fly to it." He started fishing the salt in his native home of New Jersey.

JT, as he is known, moved to Sarasota in 1979 and has been living here on and off since that time. JT is editor of the Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers newsletter and is a board member for the club.



We will meet 6:30 pm on 1 August at the Northdale Recreation Center off N. Dale Mabry Hwy.

Jay Tinsky from the Mangrove Club will share adventures with us from his recent trip to Romano, Cuba. Please join us for this interesting presentation.

We will have pizza and water for you and our usual raffle. //Walt

**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 had a great Fourth of July and were able to celebrate safely. We will continue to meet each month this year and onwards if the creek doesn't rise.

Thanks for your support to our club and let us know how we can better help you and our sport. Bruce and I talked to a woman we met on the Big Thompson at Estes Park, CO and she let us know they dissolved their club due to a lack of interest. Surprising, as Estes Park is surrounded by many great lakes and trout streams and we see anglers everywhere we go. Nonetheless, I hope you all enjoy our club and the newsletter and we always welcome feedback.

We are lining up a speaker for September and have Capt Rick Grassett in October. Rick is a long time local guide and often takes out fly fishermen and women. He is an excellent fly fisher and will offer many useful tips. Gina Russo from FWC will talk in November and we have our annual holiday party in December to wrap up the year. In January to start the new year, Capt. Bryon Chamberlin will present his photography and offer tips on how to take great pictures of your fish.

Be safe and keep those lines tight!

//Walt Durkin



## **Fly Fishing Quotes**

“Humans were invented by water as a devise for transporting itself getting from one place to another.” Tom Robbins, *Another Roadside Attraction*

“Shorten your line, focus your casts, and slow things down. Enjoy the magic of local fishing.”  
Fennel Hudson

“Fly fishing is a contemplative experience that embodies the truth of nature and the nature of life.”  
Michael Vincent Stagnitta

## **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

President: Walt Durkin	<b>813-513-2122</b>
<a href="mailto:Walt.durkin@aol.com">Walt.durkin@aol.com</a>	<b>cell 813-853-5870</b>
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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

## Capt. Pat Damico sent these tops:

Subject: Fighting Big Fish With Side Pressure — What It Is, How To Use It

<https://troutbitten.com/2021/05/23/fighting-big-fish-with-side-pressure-not-with-the-rod-tip-up/>

How to get a stuck fly rod apart.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTXQCYSScJM>

## Book Review

I am reading *Body of Water* by Chris Dombrowski. It's the story of Deep Water Cay and the history of early bonefishing in the Bahamas. Gil Drake of Palm Beach, FL leased the island for 99 years in the mid 1950's and built a fishing lodge. The book centers around the Pinder family of guides in the early days. Mr. Dombrowski writes well with vivid descriptions of the history of the island and the fishing. Check it out if you like to read about bonefish in the Bahamas. //Walt

## Fly Fishers International News

**FFI has a Women Connect program with this goal:** “To create a community of women fly fishers where learning, sharing and inspiration are offered in a safe and non-intimidating environment, to develop and improve fly fishing/ tying skills and, offer new opportunities in a creative and fun manner.” FFI Women Connect encourages female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry as a whole by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills and build confidence. If you want to get news from FFI Women Connect, sign up for regular communications.

### **FFI also supports catch and release: Basics for Fish Release**

- 1) Use barbless artificial flies
- 2) Land fish quickly
- 3) Minimize time out of water
- 4) Handle fish gently
- 5) Back the hook out with a hemostat
- 6) Support fish facing the current until it swims away





# Lake Calm Outing

We held our annual Lake Calm outing on 8 July this year and six attendees tried to fish amid rain and storms. We had a dry June/early July, but, wouldn't you know it, the morning of our outing brought rain storms. Nevertheless, we were able to fish a bit and caught bass and pan fish on top water. The lake was a little low, but still had clean, clear water. Ted's truck also got stuck pulling out my Gheenoe and Robert had to rescue us. Since it was still raining we went to a local restaurant and the club treated lunch. We will hope for better luck with the weather next year.

Thanks to Dr. John Millns for letting us use his property on the lake. John is a long time member and owns Dermatology Associates of Tampa Bay. John and his daughter do skin screening for our club every two years.



# Flexo Crab Fly

Flexo crabs are fun and fairly easy to tie. The tricky part is getting the flexo stuff tied in on the hook. After that it's easy to add the eyes and legs. Buy the flexo tubes on line or in a local shop and give them a try. Find good instructions on YouTube. Great crab pattern for all game fish including reds, trout and snook.





# TOO HOT TO FISH

By Robert Fischer

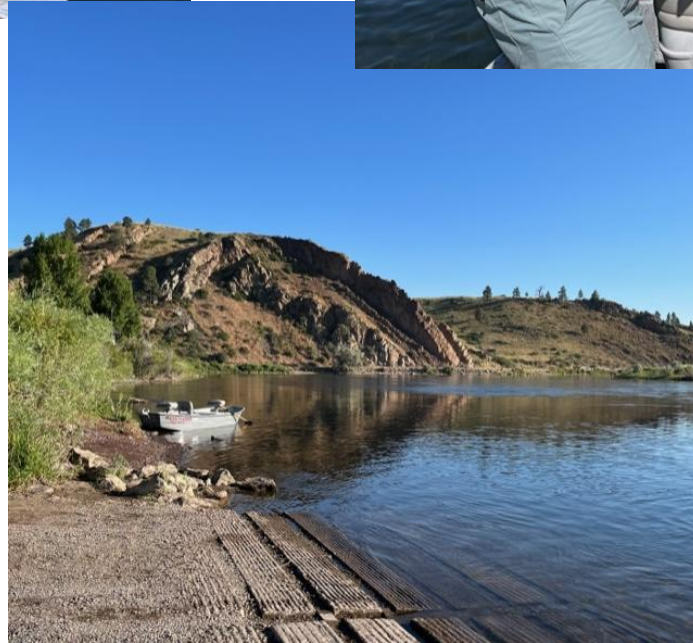
“It’s too hot to fish!” What? Who said that? Is it ever too hot to fish? Well yes, it is during the middle of the day lately. You can still fish, just do it early in the morning, or right at dusk, or best of all, fish at night. That’s the best thing to do during the summer.

If it is too hot to fish what can we do instead? Now is a good time to do our boat and tackle maintenance so we’ll be ready when the conditions get better. For your boat and trailer, check the lights, grind the anodes, change the fuel filters, lower end oil, spark plugs and water pump. Lube the wheels and all moving parts including locks and latches. Spray your electronics and motor with silicone. Tighten all the nuts and bolts. That’s a bigger job than you think, (my catamaran has 1000 bolts and screws; I counted them). Check your tires for cracking. They usually don’t ever wear out but they do get old and crack which can lead to a blowout on the highway. Check your first aid kit and replace any antibiotic spray or Betadine solution that is 3 years old. Check the date on your flares. Out of date flares can cost you \$140 if you get a ticket. Check your fire extinguisher. These things can be done in a garage or the shade of a tree with a fan blowing on you.

Indoors there are things to do also. Clean and lube your reels. Clean all your fly lines. Change the middle and bite tippets on your leaders. The heavy butt sections don’t need to be changed because as they get old they get stiff and actually act better. Cut off a foot of your floating lines and retie your butt sections on; your lines will float better. Throw away any flies with rusty hooks; they will break on a big fish. Lube the joints on your rods with rod wax (paraffin). Wax your rods with a good quality car wax (don’t use car wax on the male part of the rod joints, use rod wax). Dirty cork handles can be renewed with fine sandpaper or with a Scotchbrite pad and Comet cleaner. Lube your pliers and nippers. Learn to tie a new knot. Practice tying the knots you use regularly. Read some good books and magazines about fishing.

If you are a fly tier, tie new and better flies for the coming season. You can do this in the air conditioning while watching sports on TV. Donate your old flies to the club so we can put them in the raffle. So there are lots of things to do if it ever does get “Too hot to fish”.

**Denise sent us this:** “Debbie Griffith and Denise Bruner having a great time fishing in Montana. We nymph-fished in the morning with Caddis Pupa and zebra midge below Holter Dam and did fairly well considering the crowds, then switched to dry flies in the afternoon trying to catch ‘em on Trico imitation. Finally caught a couple on a crippled Caddis pattern. The fish were everywhere but were finicky. We are here for the week so hope to have more luck. It is a bit windy.



# Tennessee Fly Fishing

**Club member Jim Dye sent us this report:** I did a float trip over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend on the Little Pigeon River in East Tennessee between Gatlinburg and Johnson City. We targeted smallmouth bass, which I had only fished for 1 time before. I had a guide out of Smoky Mountain Anglers in Gatlinburg. The fishing was ok. I caught a handful and lost just as many but I increased my lifetime catch total several times over. A couple of takeaways from the trip – my guide was very much in tune with the river. He knew which runs to ignore and which runs to spend some time on. He knew his stuff even though he was only in his early 20s. The fishing up there is mostly on TVA tailwaters. The guide called me the night before the float to set up the meet and it was based on the TVA generation schedule, which isn't published until the day before. So, flexibility is needed. It turned out, I only had to drive about 15 minutes to the meeting spot. It could have been up to hour or more if the generation gods were against us. The fish all ran about the same size as the one in the picture. The largest smallmouth in this river runs around 20 inches, more or less. A 20-inch smallmouth is about 15 years old so there are just not that many big ones around.



The guide said the river also has a muskie population but they weren't our target that day. Smallmouth bass flies are surprisingly large. Some the guide had with him would not have been out of place on a tarpon trip – big Clouser looking streamers. What that means is that smallmouth are aggressive beyond their size. We fished poppers early in the day but switched to subsurface flies about midmorning. The best fly was one called Todd's [Wiggle Minnow](#). It uses a piece of foam glued on the hook shank and a tail of either craft fur or marabou. The face of the foam is cut at a 45 so that the fly dives when worked. It's a simple fly to tie. After catching a couple of bass on them, I told the guide that the fish were hitting the fly like the fly owes them money. Lots of money. I've already added some to my box for beach snook in case this west wind ever goes away. The final takeaway is that there's a lot of fly-tying talent on the smallmouth rivers and they're happy to share. I've had Montana guides give me a fly on the river and then charge me for it at the end of the day. Not a lot of money but it kind of rubbed me the wrong way. Up there, my guide was happy to share and gifted me some flies at the end of the day. One, a crawfish pattern, had lots of movement and uses orange legs for high visibility in the rivers. I want to use it down here and planned to use it on Lake Clear around the docks but the rain kept me from doing that this year. So, that's still to happen. Finally, it was nice to be in the foothills of the Smokies. Not really cooler weather but a bit of a break from this summer's 120 day sauna fest.



**Capt. Bryon Chamberlin reports:** “I caught this 45 inch (35lb) redfish over in the north end of Mosquito Lagoon on a floating crab fly pattern back in June with my friend Capt. Billy Rotne. These bull redfish feed on pass crabs on the surface that are floating out with the tide during the months of May and June. Capt. Billy Rotne targets the big tides just before the new and full moons during those months when the crabs flow out to spawn. These giant redfish are sight cast to with floating crab patterns on 11 or 12 weight rods. Who says you have to go all the way over to Louisiana to have a chance to catch a giant redfish on fly? Just a few hours drive to the other side of the state and you are throwing at giants! The surface eats are spectacular!!”

To set up a guided trip with Capt. Billy Rotne for next year's crab tides, his info is as follows:

Website:

<http://www.ponceinletcharters.com>

Email: [captbillyrotne@yahoo.com](mailto:captbillyrotne@yahoo.com)

Phone: (386) 290-9897





We had three good days of fishing in Northern Colorado on the Poudre, North Fork of the Poudre and the Big Thompson. We caught 18 trout, mostly browns on dry flies. The rivers are running well for fishing after the snow melt. I fought the brown at the bottom for about 5 minutes, a strong, healthy, wild trout.





## Kelly and Wes' Road Trip to Alaska

Hi Walt - here's where we are on our adventure: "Wes and Kelly have embarked on a 12,000 mile, 101 day RV/fishing trip to Alaska and back. They are currently in Colorado (day 10 of trip) and have been fishing along the way. They fished Skiatook Lake in Oklahoma, where water levels were very low, but fish were biting. They caught stripers, smallmouth bass, perch, crappie, sunfish, catfish and an accidental turtle. Next up was Cedar Bluff Reservoir in Kansas where they caught crappie, smallmouth, largemouth, wipers, sunfish, and a carp. Wes fished the South Platte River and had to compete with tubers, but managed to bring in a rainbow trout."





Club member TJ on the Davidson River, North Carolina  
Good job TJ; what a beautiful trout!





Club member Bryce sent us this report: “There were several large schools of big Reds and Black Drum the past few weeks running right along the trough in St Pete beach. Caught six good sized drum; unfortunately I do not know how to tie a sand flea fly , pretty certain that’s what they were feeding on. However was able to feed them on a flexo crab I tied for the winter Redfish on cypress flat. Was also very surprised to find several schools of good size Pompano in July ;They were shooting up and down along the Sargasso weed line that had formed on the front edge of the first sand bar and caught several good size Pompano on a DT special I recently learned how to tie .





## 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](http://captpatdamico.com) and 727-504-8649.

Practice proper catch and release when fly fishing A recent warming trend had been a boost to shallow water fly fishing frequently resulting in catching many fish. Even if a few fish are going to be kept, having the ability to safely and quickly release a fish to catch another requires careful technique. I often see serious fishermen who want to preserve their sport for the future do the wrong things. Handling the fish with a dry towel, holding large fish vertically, and keeping them out of the water too long will prevent their survival. If holding a fish out of the water, hold your breath at the same time. The time should not exceed that. Most flies have a single hook that can be crimped or de-barbed before starting to fish. This means it will penetrate the fish's mouth easier and simplify removal from your quarry or your person. Do barbless hooks make it easier to lose fish? If constant tension is applied, no. When the hooked fish is close to the boat or you, grab the leader near the fish and with your other hand engage the hook bend with a simple wire hook disgorger sold in all tackle shops, similar to the ones used to remove live baitfish from a Sabiki rig. Lift vertically with the disgorger while holding the leader below the fish's mouth and the hook point will disengage allowing it to slip back into the water. All this without handling the fish.

**Capt Rick Grasset reports:** Reds should school up this month. You should find them on shallow flats where they'll be easier to find when the tide is low. Look for "nervous" water when it is slick calm or a slick patch of water when there is a ripple on the water. They may push a wake that looks like a boat wake. I try to be as quiet as possible in shallow water, poling to locate them. Once you've located a school of reds, try to get ahead of them to intercept them, much like tarpon fishing. If you work around the edges of the school, you may be able to catch a few of them before they spook. We often also find big jacks, blues and other predators in the mix along with reds. Fly poppers or Gurglers may draw some big strikes

Trout fishing is usually good in August. You may find a big trout in skinny water at first light. Focus on mullet or bait schools to find them. Fly poppers or Gurglers should be very effective at that time of day. I always release big trout over 19", since they are usually females that may be full of roe. One of the largest trout that I have seen caught and released on a fly was a 7 ½-pound fish that blew up on a Gurgler, fished in glass minnow schools! I like the same areas for big trout that I like for reds.

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



## 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

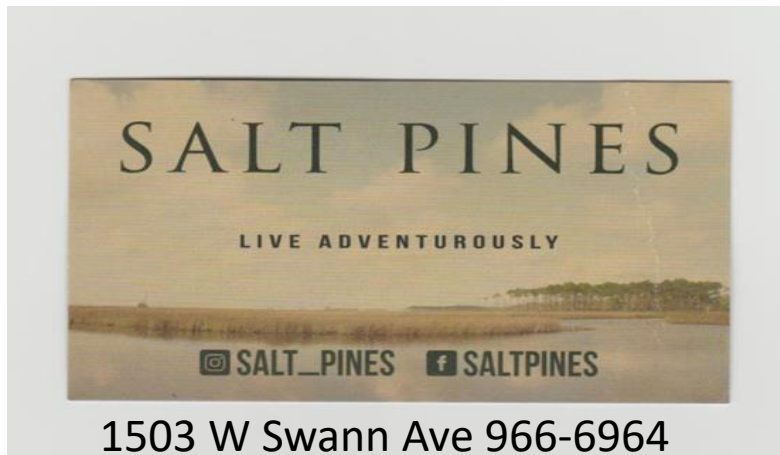
- Jan Casting Clinic
- Jan Red Fly Tournament
- 11 Mar Picnic Island Outing
- Mar Annual Banquet
- July 8 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct 21 Carl Hanson Outing
- Nov 8-14 Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov 19 Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Dec 8 Play Hooky at the Suncoast  
Youth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



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

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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
- Carbon Marine, 3916 W. Osborne Ave. Tampa Fl, 33614, 813-870-1234
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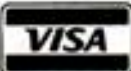
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- Monthly Meetings with informative speakers
- Fishing Trips Sponsored by Members and the Club
- Group Clinics and Workshops
- Fly Tying Lessons
- One-On-One Fly Casting Lessons
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- 80-page Beginner's Basic Skills Instruction Manual
- Annual Banquet

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



Member Application

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Please Check: One Year \_\_\_\_\_ Five Year \_\_\_\_\_

Please list names you wish to include in family membership

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\$150.00 Corporate Single Membership

(includes one membership and Ad Space)

Five-year dues: \$160.00 Individual Membership

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