

We will meet 6:30 pm on 7 November at the Northdale Recreation Center off N. Dale Mabry Hwy.

Please join us for an interesting discussion, fly casting and pizza. Come early about 5:30 for fly casting and the meeting will start at 6:30. New folks are welcome to walk in and check out the club.



Guest Speaker is Gina Russo

Ms. Gina Russo is a Biological Scientist III and Outreach Coordinator for the FWC. Gina has been with the commission for 20 years, primarily working with the recreational fishing community and numerous fishing organizations.

Gina is a good friend to our club and hosts a couple of outings for us each year. She will talk about our outing at Apollo Beach on 8 December and update us on the new hatchery. Additionally she will cover Fishing for Conservation, Best Fishing Practices and updates on regulations like Red drum and the Skyway Fishing Pier. 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 enjoyed our October meeting with Captain Rick Grassett. Thanks to Rick for a great presentation on Tampa Bay fishing. Please remember to support our local guides for a great day of fishing.

We made it through the summer and now look forward to cooler weather and winter flats fishing. Please check our guide to wade fishing Tampa Bay on our club website under articles. Here you will learn all you need to know for a successful trip on our local waters. We look forward to sight fish the low winter tides for reds, snook and trout.

Thanks for your support to the club and let us know how we can better serve our fly fishing community. We welcome families and would like to encourage more young people to join our sport. Fishing is great fun and takes you to wild and beautiful places.

We have a busy fall and hope to see you at an event or meeting. This is a great time to fish so try to get out on the water often. Be safe and keep those lines tight!

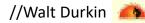
Fly Fishing Quotes

"I've gone fishing thousands of times in my life, and I have never once felt unlucky or poorly paid for those hours on the water." -William Tapply "A Fly-Fishing Life"

"I look into my fly box, and think about all the elements I should consider in choosing the perfect fly: water temperature, what stage of development the bugs are in, what the fish are eating right now. Then I remember what a guide told me: 'Ninety percent of what a trout eats is brown and fuzzy and about five-eighths of an inch long." -Allison Moir

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Robert Fischer	813-495-5685
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Keaton Anderson	404-313-7820



TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

In November, Gina Russo from Florida Fish and Wildlife will talk on progress of the hatchery. Then we will 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. I will offer a presentation on my trip to Italy sometime next year.

We will hold our 5 December meeting at our old location, Compton Park. This is our annual holiday party from 6 until 9 PM. Please bring a gift for the exchange if you want to participate and bring a salad, dessert or appetizer. We will also have fish and hush puppies. This is a fun, causal event to celebrate and get to know each other a bit more.

Please take advantage of our annual casting clinic. This is expert instruction at a very low cost. We also seek to increase membership in the Fly Fishers International, one of our umbrella organizations.

Kayak outing

We will have our annual 'Hooky for the Holidays' on Friday, December 8th at the Suncoast Youth Conservation Center in southeast Tampa off Hwy 41. We will kayak this year for about three hours and then have lunch and a tour of the facility. We will provide lunch and drinks. Please arrive about 8:30 to set out at about 9:00 in the kayaks. Bring a rod to fish or just kayak. All kayaks are provided. Signup at the next meeting or email me.

Don Coleman Outing 16 December

This is a well attended event hosted by our sister club in St Pete, the Suncoast. Please come for fishing in the Ft Desoto area and also lunch. Ft Desoto offers both good kayak, boat and wade fishing. More details next month.

Fly Casting Seminar Saturday, November 18, 2023, from 8:30 am to 3 pm

WHERE: Egan Park, 9101 Blind Pass Rd, St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

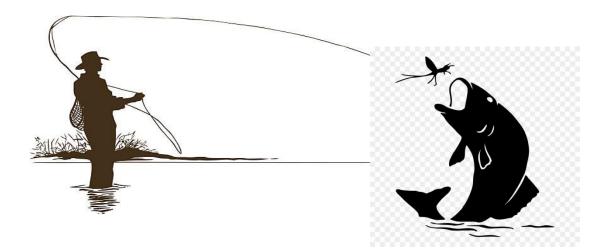
WHAT: We will be flexible with our format. Weather and wind made our last one, "One of the best," as described by several participants of many previous years. We'll keep working on fundamental skills but will make the drills much more like real fishing conditions. All levels of expertise, or lack thereof, will be accommodated and welcomed. Since we will start on time, arrive early and bring whatever equipment you have; leaders and practice flies will be provided. We also have some club rods.

WHO: Master Certified Fly Casting Instructors Dale Mazzarella, Pat Damico, Certified Instructors Jonas Magnusson, Chris O'Byrne, Robert DeAngelis, and others will assist you in developing the skills needed to catch more fish.

COST: Free to FFI members, others can join FFI for a year \$25 for Seniors and Veterans, and \$35 for Regulars.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Come join us for a fun day of friendship and instruction! Members from all clubs are welcome as well as the general public.

Pat Damico, 727-504-8649, Tom Gadacz, 706-726-7899, or Jonas Magnusson 361-903-2846 should be contacted to reserve your place if you haven't signed the sign-up sheet.







Sponsored by the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club

Sunday, November 19 at 9:00 a.m. Picnic Island Park, Tampa (Shelters #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. Plus, we will anoint a Women's 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 – 2:00 pm. There is NO entry fee, and lunch will be provided to all contestants. You may use your own rod for all competition stations. The Big Gun distance contest must be an 8 weight rod. Volunteers also are needed to help set up the course and score contestants. This is a family oriented event and all are welcome.

The Tailing Loops Jonas Magnusson

When I started fly fishing, I noticed that simple overhand knots mysteriously materialized on my leader and tippet. At first, I neither realized the downside of having such a knot on the leader/tippet nor did I understand how that happened. An overhand knot on the leader/tippet will substantially weaken it (some say by half). Yes, of course, I found out the hard way. Therefore, when you spot one on your leader/tippet system deal with it immediately. If not dealt with you will lose a big fish – your choice. These knots are called wind knots. No - the wind does not make them – you do. However, you might make more of them when casting in windy conditions.

I had no clue why I was churning the wind knots out. But I understood it must be related to my casting somehow. I freely admit that some of my casts resembled Picasso's Goat and I suspected therein was the issue. However, it has taken me years to understand why the knot appears and even longer to understand how it happens.

These wind knots will appear when you cast a tailing loop.

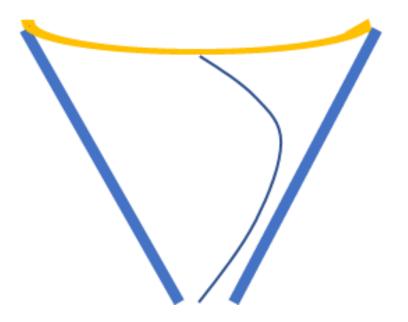
Definition of a tailing loop:

You can see the dip in the fly leg and often the line does not turn over and it all ends in a sorry pile, and that's what we call a tailing loop. It is not possible to see the tip path itself because of the speeds involved. A slow cast can move the tip 60' per second. A high-speed film of a fly cast with a tail demonstrates the dip in the tip path, and the dip is there for all tailing lops irrespective of how we make them. However, by paying attention to the fly leg we can indirectly infer the tip path. Domed fly leg means that the tip path was domed – straight fly legs are a testament to a straight tip path – a tail is indicative of a dip in the tip path. Therefore, it is extremely important to pay attention to the shape of the top leg.

So, conceptually it is simple – the reason for tailing loops is a dip in the tip path. It is not at all simple to avoid them though, and all casters will cast them occasionally.

How do you go about dipping the tip path?

There are three main reasons for the dipped path.



1. The casting arc is too narrow for the bend in the rod. https://everyjonahhasawhale.com/fly-casting/casting-technique/tailing-loop-on-delivery/

2. Creep https://everyjonahhasawhale.com/fly-casting/casting-technique/tailing-loop-creep/

3. Inappropriate application of power https://everyjonahhasawhale.com/fly-casting/casting-technique/tailing-loop-inappropriate-applicationof-power/

Smitty's Sloppy Joe

tbsp vegetable oil
 large onion, diced
 ³ cup diced red & orange pepper
 lb lean ground beef
 cup Heinz Tomato Ketchup
 tbsp tomato paste
 tbsp Heinz Worcestershire Sauce
 tbsp brown sugar
 ¼ tsp salt
 ¼ tsp pepper
 a splash of apple cider vinegar
 8 sandwich buns

Directions:



1. Heat oil in a large frying pan set over medium-high heat. Sauté onions, red & orange pepper for 5 minutes.

2. Add beef to the pan. Cook, stirring until browned, about 5 to 10 minutes. Drain off fat.

3. Stir in ketchup, tomato paste, Worcestershire sauce, sugar, salt and pepper. Simmer over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, for 10 minutes or until slightly thickened. Serve on sandwich buns

4. Serve with baked potato wedges or tater tots and/or onion rings and coleslaw

Fishing Fine and Far in Italy

While fishing in Mexico I met Tiziano, the owner of the Punta Allen Fishing Lodge. It turns out he is Italian and was the first person to guide trout fishing in Italy. I was in Mexico at Punta Allen for the annual permit tournament, the El Palometero. One of the auction items was a week of fishing in Italy with Tiziano, so I bought it and we were set for an Italian fishing adventure.

Myself, my wife Lou, and her sister Janelle flew to Milan via Atlanta, arriving 4 October. We drove about three hours north and west to the Alps and met Tiziano in the town of Cogne. He had put us in a beautiful 4 star resort to fish a nearby river. The resort included a super breakfast with lots of great food and omelets-to-order. Tiziano met me at 9:00 am and we were off to fish the nearby Eyvia river.

I found fishing in October was very good, but had challenges. First, the rivers ran very low and were crystal clear resulting in spooky, hard to catch trout. Also, some of the rivers were closed and those that were open only allowed fishing from the shore. No wading to protect any spawning trout. This often required long sixty to seventy foot casts. Finally, Tiziano rigged me with a 12 foot, 6x leader, which is tricky to fish that far.

Nonetheless, under Tiziano's expert directions we caught 15 to 20 trout per day. They were mainly rainbows from 12 to 16 inches with a nice five pounder on the last day. We also caught a few smaller brown trout usually about 10 inches. This was ninety percent sight fishing and Tiziano amazed me with his ability to spot the trout. The first two days we fished a dry dropper and then mostly just a dry fly. Occasionally, he tied on just a nymph with no indicator as we could see the fish take the fly. They also had big marble trout up to 20 pounds. We saw a couple, but Tiziano said they like clouds and rain and we had clear, warm days in the 70's.

The first river was glacier fed, but still ran crystal clear. Only about 50 feet wide, the wading and casting was easy here. The river held a lot of nice trout and we were often looking at multiple fish to cast to. Still, they often spooked or refused the fly, requiring a change. We fished a lot of Caddis and Sedge flies and the good old Adams worked just fine. His nymphs had bright tungsten beads, which the fish liked. We made a little lunch from the breakfast fixings and fished right thru lunch. It was impossible to walk away from those beautiful trout to break for lunch. Thus, we fished from about 9:00 to 4:00 each day and ate on the river.

The resort had a good happy hour starting at six with a great spread of appetizers. This was followed by dinner at 7:30, so we ate well to make up for a light lunch. The food and wine were wonderful and Tiziano would choose for us a great local wine each night. Both fine dining and fine fishing made for an excellent week.

On the third day we left for another valley about 3 hours north of Milan. Here we stayed at the Land Wasser B an B, not as fancy as the resort, but very comfortable with a good breakfast. We fished the glacier fed Sesia river and one more smaller river. The Sesia was a big, wide river, but again running low and clear. Here we could not wade in the water resulting in the very long casts. I fished a 10 foot, 2 weight and a 8.5 foot 3 weight, preferring light rods. Both worked just fine and got the job done. Also, the light lines landed softly when I made a proper cast.

Tiziano was a wizard with the fly rod and gave me some good tips and lessons. I feel I can cast pretty well, but I was maybe a 7 to his 10. I don't often fish with guides and Tiziano was superb. I learned a lot that I hope will carry over to fishing on my own. It was fun being taken care of and watching a real expert in action. Tiziano has caught over 200 permit in Punta Allen, which also speaks to his fishing skill. Very few anglers have accomplished that.

We fished the big Sesia for two days and then fished the smaller, nearby Mastallone the last day. Tiziano was able to put us on some private water, which was quite good. We only saw a few other anglers all week, although Tiziano said some rivers are busy on the weekend. We were at the end of the season, which helped. Most of the rivers closed at the end of October. I got my 5 pound rainbow on the afternoon of the last day, which was a great ending. Tiziano spotted the fish and we tried a dry fly with no result. So, Tiziano added a little, bright nymph and the trout nailed it on the third cast. I was happy to land that trout on the fine 6x tippet. I had hooked and lost several big trout during the week when they just took off. One fish I remember was a big rainbow on the Sesia. The fish were in a long, clear, shallow pool. Tiziano left to move the car, so I was on my own for a bit. He had pointed out several fish before he left, so I chose a big rainbow out about 50 feet. I made a good cast and watched him eat the fly, but snapped him off. I sure would have liked to catch that one to show Tiziano, but that is fishing.

Italy is a long way to go to trout fish and probably a once in my lifetime trip. We finished with a week in Milano with sight seeing and more good wine and food. If you are traveling in Italy in the summer and would like to fish, I can give you Tiziano's details. Italy has some really great water to explore for trout.

















Smitty's Redfish Crab Fly

Smitty calls this his Redfish Crab and he's right -- redfish love it -- but you're just as likely to catch snook fly fishing the mangroves with this fly. Fish this one at the Emerson Point Preserve if you're fishing the mangrove shorelines.

Materials: Hook: Gamakatsu SC15 #1/0 Thread: Danville's Flatwaxed Nylon, brown Weight: Medium lead eyes Claws: Four grizzly hackles, splayed Eyes: EZ Crab/Shrimp eyes or mono eyes (optional) Tail: Brown barred magnum rabbit strip, & brown marabou to cover rear wraps Legs: Pumpkin/Green Sili Legs Body: Medium root Beer or copper palmering chenille Weedguard: 40-pound Mason hard mono

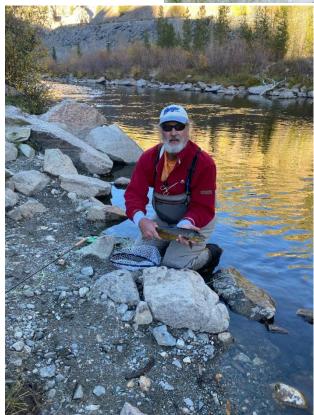


Tying Sequence: Step 1: Tie in lead eyes securely one eye length behind hook eye. Step 2: Tie in and splay two grizzly hackles on each side, making sure feathers curve outwards. Step 3: Tie Bunny strip with hide facing upwards – fly will ride hook point up. Tie in a pair of rubber legs on each side of bunny strip. Step 4: Palmer marabou to hide rear wraps for a neat fly. Step 5: Tie in palmering chenille and wrap forward, stopping behind the eye. Step 6: Tie in a second pair of legs on each side just behind lead eyes. Step 7: Add a 40-pound hard mono weed guard by folding in half and tying in from the bottom of the fly. Make sure to separate weed guards and cross wrap to secure. Apply a coating of Solarez UV Resin and cure

Kelly and Wes are fishing around Crested Butte, CO this week. "So far we have fished beaver ponds for brook trout, dam tail waters for brown trout, and fast moving portions of the Taylor River for brown and rainbow trout. It drops below freezing each night, but the days are beautiful in the 50s and 60s. Leaves are changing colors and the wildlife is very active - we have seen hundreds of mule deer, dozens of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, and an assortment of others such as coyote, turkey, chipmunks, and more".





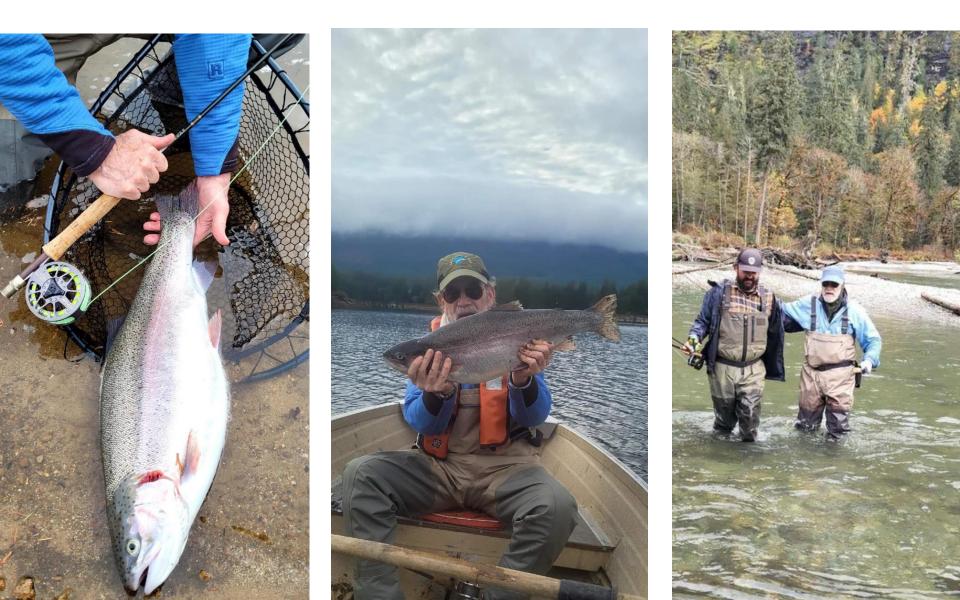




Club members Robert Fischer and Jim Adams caught nice reds in the Homosassa area. Good job guys!



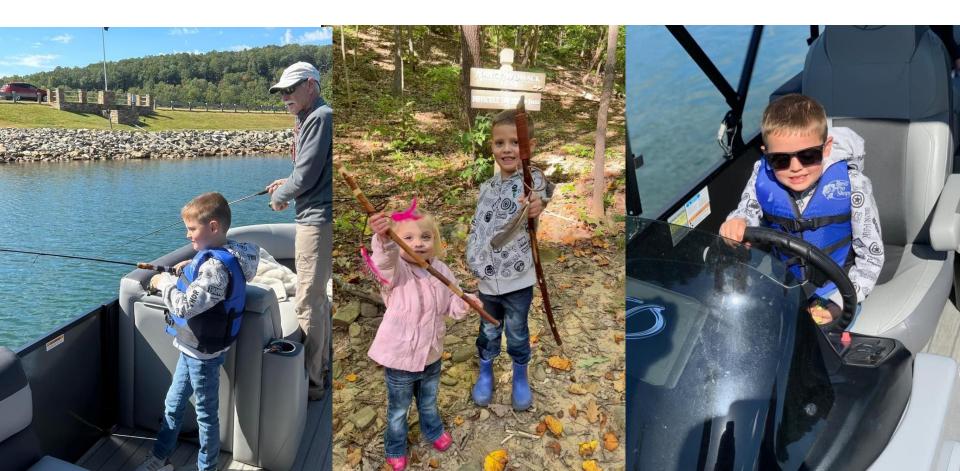
Club member Jeff Abeles had a super trip to British Columbia where he caught His first steelhead and a personal-best 15 pound rainbow!



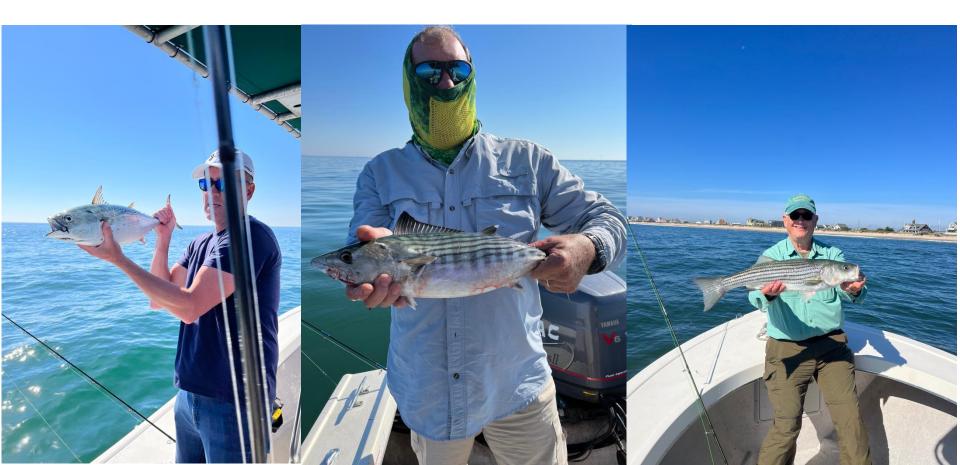
Club member Gege Stepanski caught some Mahi Mahi off the East Coast of Florida.



Ted Hagaman and his wife Kathy hosted a family vacation to the mountains of North Carolina. Ted shared some outdoor fun with his grandkids, Tyler and Samantha, fishing and hiking.



Club member Jerry Kells sent us these photos from New England. Jerry will soon be in Florida chasing red fish on the Cypress flat on those low tides.



This report from Jack Hexter: "My son Corey and I traveled to Cape Canaveral to fish the Banana River with guide Willy Le. We started out on a little lagoon which was holding some small tarpon that were not real hungry. I got 4-5 hits but could not put the hook into one. Corey finally got one to eat the whole fly and landed his. Then we went looking for redfish. We saw numerous fish but they also had lockjaw. They would follow the fly but turn off at the last minute. Same with the snook we saw. We changed flies 7 or 8 times, various sizes, colors a and patterns. We finally found a couple schools of trout and caught numerous small trout but I did land one 20" fish. I will say the conditions were not real conducive to sight fishing as it was mostly overcast and fairly windy but we made the best of it. If anyone is interested in fly fishing the space coast, (Banana River, Mosquito Lagoon, Indian River area) I highly recommend Willy Le. He is great at spotting fish in skinny water and telling you where to cast for best result".



Fishing Report and Forecast "What a great time to go fishing!"

Fishing Low Tides

Low tides can contribute to fly fishing fun or frustration. When you see a tail break the skinny water's surface, what is it? I've had inexperienced anglers chase mullet, thinking they were reds. Spooking a school of mullet with a poor cast, sloppy wading, electric motors or shadows from the sun will scare every mullet and their predator companions, trout and redfish. Lately, sheepshead have been frequent residents of skinny water. Their tails, like redfish, show as they probe the soft bottom, changing from a horizontal to a more vertical position. Approach tailing redfish cautiously. Determine the fish's position before making an accurate cast. Using at least a 9-foot 12-pound tippet tapered leader, carefully place the fly close to the fish's nose. Your favorite small crab pattern that matches the bottom with the hook pointed up with a weed guard is the fly of choice. Remove slack from the line. Move the fly an inch at a time and hang on.

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

P.S. Go online and print out the tide charts for November through February. Find and mark those days when we have negative lows of at least minus .5 feet in the morning. These low tides will run for four or five days about every other week. These are the best tides to wade out and find fish in the low, clear water. The flats at Cypress Park, the Legion Post off S. Westshore and Picnic Island are good areas to try. //Walt

Capt Rick Grassett reports: Rusty Chinnis, from Longboat Key, and I scouted the coastal gulf on a couple of trips and caught and released several false albacore, Spanish mackerel and a tripletail on flies. With plentiful baitfish and stone crab traps now being placed in the coastal gulf, it may be a strong fall season.

Look for reds in skinny water and snook and juvenile tarpon around dock lights. You should also find snook in the surf. Deep grass flats are usually a good option for action for trout and seasonal species. 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!

Snook will move away from passes as water temperature cools and days get shorter. They will stage around docks and bridges in the ICW and along sand bars, potholes and along mangrove shorelines. They may blow up on fly poppers in shallow water early or late in the day. Small white flies or Gurglers should work well around lighted docks and bridge fenders. I like larger flies, like Lefty's Deceiver and my Grassett Flats Bunny, for snook on the flats due to the larger bait usually found there. Fish peak tidal flows for the best action. Fin-Addict Guide Service, Inc.; E-mail snookfin@aol.com; (941) 923-7799.





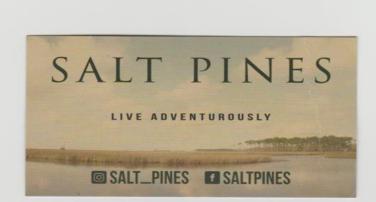
2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Casting Clinic Jan **Red Fly Tournament** Jan **Picnic Island Outing** • 11 Mar • Mar **Annual Banquet** July 8 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing Marine Quest, St Pete • Oct **Carl Hanson Outing** • Oct 21 Nov 8-14 Chattooga Trip for trout Casting Clinic, Egan Park • Nov 18 Big Gun, Picnic Island • Nov 19 Play Hooky at the Suncoast Dec 8 Youth Center Don Coleman Outing, Ft Desoto Dec 16

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 ww.captpat.com, pat4jaws@hotmail.com
- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grassett, (941) 923-7799, www.snookfin-addict.com
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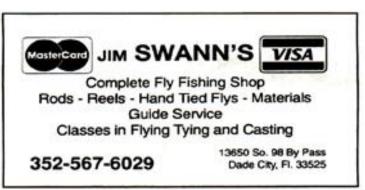


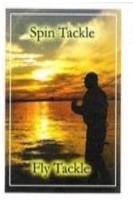
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The Fly Guy Capt. Pat Damico 2981 E. Vina del Mar Blvd.

2981 E. Vina del Mar Blvd. St. Pete Beach, FL 33706 Tel. 727-504-8649 Hppt://captpat.com pat4jaws@hotmsail.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

Fly Casting Coaches

South Tampa

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North Tampa	
Jonas Magnusson	361 903 2846
Robert Fischer	813-495-5685
Leigh West	813-971-8697
Ted Hagaman	813-920-7863
St. Petersburg	
Capt. Pat Damico	727-504-8649

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Please Check: One Year	Five Year	
Please list names you w	ish to include in family men	nbership
Annual Dues: \$40.00 Inc	dividual Membership	
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Please make check paya	able to: Tampa Bay Fly Fishi	ng Club C/O Walt Durkin at 3401
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