

## Fly Fishing Trivia

Hi Everyone, Please join us for our November meeting, which will feature a fly fishing trivia contest. We have found some interesting and informative questions about our favorite sport! We will divide randomly into two teams and go thru the questions one at a time and keep score as we go. All members of the team with the most right (aka, the Winners) will receive a \$25 gift card to Tampa Fishing Outfitters. This will benefit both you and the store. Stop by and see Keaton at the fly fishing section for good advice on what to buy. Tampa Fishing Outfitters also have a wide selection of spin and bait casting gear, so you will have no problem finding something for your gift card. This is a new meeting theme for us and hope you enjoy it and learn some new things along the way.

Sample question: What kind of trout is shown?



**Next meeting 5 November  
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**

We meet at the Northdale Recreation Center from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We will provide pizza and drinks, so join us for an enjoyable evening. Families and newcomers are welcome to walk in and check out the club. Come early to practice casting at 05:30 pm. This month special instruction will focus on the roll cast.

# The BIG GUN SHOOT-OUT



Sponsored by the **Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club**

**Sunday, November 17 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 9:00 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.

## Tom Logan of FFI Remembers Dave Olsen

Dear Members of the Florida Council of Fly Fishers International,

The past few months have been challenging for all of us in Florida with the tornados of this spring through the two devastating hurricanes that made landfall the past few weeks. My thoughts are with all of you as we recover.

I also know that many of you are aware that we lost a dear friend, David Olson, on August 29. Dave passed away that evening doing what he loved most, fly fishing in the surf at Vero Beach. His family will be hosting a Celebration of Life for Dave that some of you may want to attend. The Celebration will be from noon till 4:00 pm on November 3, 2024, at the River House in Vero Beach, 305 Acacia Road.

Dave was serving as President of our Florida Council of Fly Fishers International. He was an exceptional fly caster and teacher, has helped many of us over the years improve our enjoyment of fly fishing and will be remembered as a kind and sharing friend to fly fishers. Please watch for a Tribute to Dave Olson that will appear in the next issue of Flyfisher magazine. I also wanted to share comments from Dave's mother, Donna Olson, as they tell us a lot about Dave and his development as a fly fisher and teacher.

Clearly, the Florida Council will miss Dave as we move forward with programs he planned.

Sincerely,

Tom H. Logan, Acting President

**Directions to Our Meetings (6:00pm):** 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 October meeting. We talked about how and where to wade fish this winter in Tampa Bay. I led the discussion and we had lively input from club members. Winter is the best time to wade fish with clear, cool water and plenty of redfish. We mostly sight fish on the low negative tides in the morning, but you can find good action all day. **We will meet at Cypress Park on 16 November for a club outing starting at 8:00 AM.** We will provide coffee and donuts, go over the basics and then fish in the morning. We will have a good predicted tide of a -.8 low and hope for good wind and sun. Please join us to learn the ropes of fishing this fun and productive area.

Please check out our club website at TBFFC.org. Bruce Anderson does a super job of maintaining and updating. Here you will find pictures and copies of all our newsletters. Also, be sure to check out our Wade Guide to Tampa Bay. It will provide you with loads of useful information to successfully wade fish in Tampa Bay.

**Please note our annual banquet with the Suncoast in 29 March next year in Tampa.** I think I had a different date in earlier newsletters.

//Walt Durkin



## Fly Fishing Quotes

“Fly fishing is a continuous process that you learn and love for its own sake. Those who fish already get it, and those who don’t couldn’t care less, so don’t waste your breath on someone who doesn’t fish.”

John Gierach, American Author of over 20 books on fly fishing. Passed away on 3 Oct 2024. We will miss reading his next book, but he left a treasure trove to enjoy again and again.

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Robert Fischer	813-495-5685
Ginny Fischer	813-495-5685
Bruce Anderson	813-786-3902
Jim Dye	941-730-3647
Keaton Anderson	404-313-7820

# October Meeting Photo

by Denise Bruner

We had a pretty good turnout as members met and discussed wade fishing in Tampa Bay during the winter. We will have an outing on 16 November at Cypress Park to give it a try.



## TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

**New Club Shirts** are available in white, blue and tan. They cost us \$27 and will offer them at \$30. We also have 24 new club hats to offer and they should be ready for our November meeting .

Please support our local fly shops, especially Tampa Fishing Outfitters off Dale Mabry past the stadium and Minnows and Monsters in S. Tampa. Mention our club for a 10% discount. Special thanks to **Tampa Fishing Outfitters** for their continued support to the club.

For our November meeting we will sponsor a fly fishing trivia contest. We also have our Big Gun casting competition 17 November and an outing at Cypress Park on 16 November. December 13th is our annual kayak trip to the Suncoast Youth Conservation Center and our December meeting is our annual holiday party. Hope to see you at these events this fall and winter.

Dr. Mike Perez warns us regarding increased case reports of flesh eating bacteria on contaminated flood waters following the 2 hurricanes in Florida. There have been 44 new cases of Vibrio infections with 11 deaths in Florida. Please monitor the water quality where you fish and don't expose any open skin to salt water while wading.

//Walt

### **Cypress Park Outing 16 November**

We will meet at 8:00 AM at the park for coffee and donuts and discuss how to fish the Cypress flat. We will then fish the morning and try our luck. More experienced members will help orient new folks.

### **Annual Big Gun Casting Competition 17 November**

Please join us for this friendly event to test your casting skills at Picnic Island, shelter 611. The event will run from 9:00 AM to about 2:00 PM. We will provide lunch and drinks. Just bring a fly rod and prepare to have a good time.

**We will dedicate this year's event to Dave Olsen who** passed away recently. Dave was a fly shop manager, a board member of FFI and a great ambassador for our sport. He won our annual Big Gun competition many times and was the man to beat in both accuracy and long distance. He was a good friend of our club and we will miss his camaraderie and talent as we compete this year.





# Fly Casting Tip for November – Common Mistakes

- FREQUENT FALSE CASTING

This applies to both fresh and salt water fly fishing. If you are dry fly fishing, several false casts can be used to dry your fly, otherwise avoid them. More than one false cast is usually not necessary and will spook fish. Practice picking up and casting with one false cast for efficient fly fishing.

- USING THE WRONG KNOTS.

Find several knots you can tie quickly and properly. Practice at home if necessary. I like the improved clinch knot, the Lefty non-slip mono knot, uni knot, double surgeons and blood knot.

- ACTING TOO QUICKLY.

Being impatient is one of my faults. First, take time to study the water a bit whether you are on a stream, pond or salt flat. This will often reveal good clues and help you focus and relax. Additionally, do not rush your cast. Good casts always start slowly with the line straight and the rod tip down. Think smooth, not fast.

- NOT USING THE RIGHT FLIES.

This one is tricky. When we trout fish we always visit the nearest fly shop for tips and flies, which usually pays off. They will know and sell you the hot pattern for local rivers. For salt water you can also check with shops and guides. And, research any destination you are going to for proven patterns. Finally, presentation is often more important than fly choice.

- POORLY CASTING & HOOKING.

Here I will just suggest avoiding the “trout” strike in salt water in favor of a good hard stripe strike. Also, keep you rod tip down near or in the water when retrieving. A straight line leads to a solid set.

# Kayak Outing at the Suncoast Youth Center, Apollo Beach, 13 Dec 0830 AM

6650 Dickman Rd, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

We will provide all the equipment, lunch and drinks. Please be ready to kayak and fish if you so desire. After lunch we will tour the facility and fish the pond. Special thanks to Gina Russo (Environmental Specialist and Scientist) with the FWC for hosting our club for many years. Suncoast members will also join us!





# Tampa Bay Waterkeepers

I wanted to recognize this organization for the great work they do. They also monitor water quality in our area, so check out their website at <https://www.tampabaywaterkeeper.org>.

## **Protecting your right to clean water**

Tampa Bay Waterkeeper is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We are a member of the Waterkeeper Alliance, a global network of over 350 grassroots leaders in six continents protecting everyone's right to clean water.

A clean and resilient watershed is essential to strong communities and a healthy economy. Serving our population of more than 2.7 million people across Hillsborough and Pinellas counties, Tampa Bay Waterkeeper works to improve, protect, and preserve Tampa Bay's watershed through citizen engagement and community action rooted in sound science and research.

Our scope of work is diverse, with core issues including clean water, ecosystem protection, and coastal resiliency. Tampa Bay Waterkeeper researches issues diligently and works collaboratively with citizens, local organizations and governments so that together we can find the best solutions to supporting our work.

Club member Matt Santilli sent us this great fishing report: "Post hurricane conditions are still rough with cloudy, fast moving water on the beaches. The bay, inlets, and beaches are stocked full of pilchards of all sizes, which seem to be getting chased heavily by Jacks, Spanish Mack, and Mangrove Snapper. Negative low tide at Cypress Point Park during the super-moon provided a handful of reds and snook in the 22-25" range following small schools of big mullet. The snook and reds don't seem to be schooling yet and have not seen any tailing, but they are definitely around and common on the west side of the sandbar during low tide. Stingrays, Bonnet-head Sharks, and Pufferfish are easy to come by across the flats at high and low tide as well.

On the East coast, the mullet run to the north has slowed down quite a bit but the snook are feeding aggressively, even pushing up into freshwater canals and ponds. The second picture shows a 33", the biggest of 9, that was caught on top water in a small freshwater pond, connected by nearly a half mile of pipes and another small pond to the ICW in St. Augustine."



Club member Torin Bradt is looking forward to our winter fishing in Tampa Bay. Meanwhile he has enjoyed success in fresh water.





Jerry Kells sent us these photos of striped bass caught in Rhode Island where he spends the summer. Look for Jerry on the Cypress flat when he returns for the winter.





Robert Fischer and Jim Dye fished the Madison River in Montana this October. Robert is shown below with a big brown trout and Jim with a big rainbow (21").





Captain Bryon Chamberlin sent us this: "I was able to confirm via hook and line sampling that I have native brook trout in the section of Amicalola Creek that runs through our property. I was also able to confirm that creek chubs will take dry flies too. "







Jeff Abeles sent us this report: "I recently fished the North Platt River in Casper Wyoming! I've done a lot of freshwater trout fishing over the years and the North Platt has the strongest fish I have ever encountered! Pound for pound their strength is incredible! There were many hatches every day and the dry fly fishing was outstanding!"





Wes and Kelly continued their retirement RV/fly fish the US travels with a trip to the Driftless Area (thank you Patty Anderson for your club talk a few months ago that helped in trip planning). They made it to Decorah Iowa as the first stop in the Driftless. The weather was warm in late September, but the nights quickly dropped into the 40s. They fished Trout Run below Siewers Spring near the fish hatchery where they caught rainbow trout. Another day they fished Cold Water Creek, about 20 minutes from Decorah. This was a favorite and beautiful creek for brown trout. They then headed to Minnesota where they fished Trout Run in Whitewater State Park and Canfield Creek and Forestville Creek in Forestville State Park, catching brown and rainbow trout. Hurricane Helene decided to push storm surge into our area, so that's where they cut the trip short and headed home. They'll have to return to finish fly fishing the Driftless.





# Photo Gallery

## Colorado Color this Fall High in the Rocky Mountains



## **Fishing Report and Forecast**

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

How many times have you had a good fish on only to have the line go limp and the leader return to you without the fly or part of the leader also missing? If you had the fish hit or tangle around an obstruction like barnacle-encrusted pilings or bridge abutments this is understandable. I encourage clients to bring their own gear so that I can see how they are rigged. I check how the leader is attached to the fly line, their knots connecting each section of the leader and how the fly is tied on. Leader to the line could be a nail knot, or loop to loop, with a perfection or double surgeon's knot on the butt section of the leader. Leader to leader can be a blood knot, double or triple surgeon's knot. Since we use straight eye hooks for most saltwater flies, a good loop knot should connect the tippet to the fly. If a simple overhand, or “wind,” knot is present anywhere in the leader it tells me that they have casting issues that are causing tailing loops, weakening the leader 50%. Do an internet search for each of these knots and practice them with good lighting and old fly line or leader of different colors. Knots usually fail from slipping. Avoid this by having a tube of lip balm in your shirt pocket to lubricate the knot as you pull it tight for complete closure. Saliva is even closer.

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

P.S. Also keep your eyes open for sheepshead on the flats. They cruise in schools and will also tail. Try a small crab pattern to fool these sharp-eyed fish. //Walt



## Fishing Report

**Capt Rick Grasset reports:** October is one of my favorite months. It's nice to do something different, so I like to fish the coastal gulf for false albacore, tripletail, cobia and mackerel, when conditions are good. There should also be good action on shallow flats with reds, trout and snook or tarpon of all sizes in upper Charlotte Harbor. Night snook fishing in the ICW heats up as the water cools down. Our natural resources are under constant pressure from red tides fueled by residential, agricultural and industrial runoff, toxic spills and discharges, freezes, increasing fishing pressure and habitat loss and degradation, please limit your kill, don't kill your limit!

Spotted sea trout fishing should also be good this month. You'll also find big trout in many of the same areas in shallow water. I would approach locating big trout the same way as reds. Focus on baitfish or mullet schools to find them and use the same flies to catch them. Some of the best action that I've experienced with big trout was at first light with big trout feeding in baitfish schools in very shallow water. In my opinion it's important to protect larger trout, which are usually female breeders. Full regulations and details on trout and other species can be viewed at <https://myfwc.com/>.

SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grasset, (941) 923-7799, [www.snookfin-addict.com](http://www.snookfin-addict.com) 923-7799.



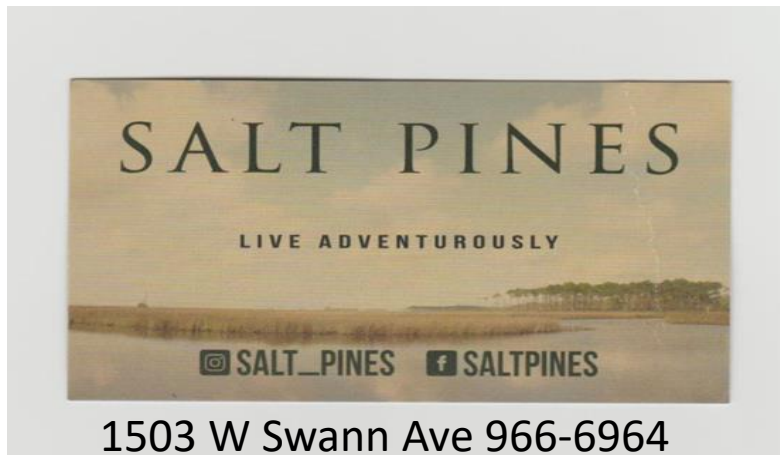
## 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 6 Cypress Park Wade Clinic
- Jan 20 Red Fly Tournament
- Feb 17 Trout Creek Outing
- Mar 29 Annual Banquet
- June 22 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- 19 Oct Carl Hanson, Hillsborough River
- Nov Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov 16 Cypress Park Outing
- Nov 17 Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Dec 13 Kayak at the Suncoast Youth  
Center
- Dec 21 Suncoast 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..
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- THE FLY GUY, Capt. Pat Damico, (727) 504-8649 ,w [www.captpat.com](http://www.captpat.com), pat4jaws@hotmail.com
- SNOOK FIN-ADDICT GUIDE SERVICE, Capt. Rick Grasset, (941) 923-7799, [www.snookfin-addict.com](http://www.snookfin-addict.com)
- SWANN'S FLY FISHING SHOP, Jim Swann, 13650 South 98 Bypass, Dade City, 33525, (352) 567-6029
- Carbon Marine, 3916 W. Osborne Ave. Tampa Fl, 33614, 813-870-1234
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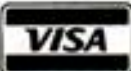
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- Monthly Meetings with informative speakers
- Fishing Trips Sponsored by Members and the Club
- Group Clinics and Workshops
- Fly Tying Lessons
- One-On-One Fly Casting Lessons
- Shirts and Hats with club logo
- 80-page Beginner's Basic Skills Instruction 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

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### St. Petersburg

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



Member Application

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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