

# Trash and Treasures Auction

Please join us for our Trash and Treasures meeting on 1 April. 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. As Rick Warfel from the Suncoast club says: "All of us have collected more rods, reels, and gear than we can use. T&T is a great way to find a new home for your excess and help clean up your storage problem." Donate your hidden gems to the club and let us sell them to the highest bidder. Hope to see you there and bring cash or a check to buy stuff. We are looking for a good turnout for this meeting and we welcome Mangrove and Suncoast members also.



**Next meeting 1 April 25**  
**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.

Pass on to the club and a lucky member!

**Directions to Our Meeting:** (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 presentation last month by Kerry Flaherty from the Tampa Bay Estuary Program. She gave us a good talk on the health of the bay and how to protect our fishery. Many thanks to Kerry and we will invite her back in a couple of years for an update.

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.

We are seeking guest speakers for 2025 and welcome your ideas. We like to get local guides, authors, scientists and conservationists to name a few. Email me your suggestions and we will try to line them up.

Our annual outing to Lake Calm will probably be on 17 May. Stay tuned for more details.

//Walt Durkin



## Fly Fishing Quotes

“In every species of fish I’ve angled for, it is the ones that have got away that thrill me the most, the ones that keep fresh in my memory. So, I say it is good to lose fish. If we didn’t, much of the thrill of angling would be gone.” - Ray Bergman

“Give a man a fish, and he has food for a day; teach him how to fish, and you can get rid of him for the entire weekend.” – Zenna Schaffer

“The great charm of fly-fishing is that we are always learning.” – Theodore Gordon

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Walt Durkin	<b>813-513-2122</b>
<a href="mailto:Walt.durkin@aol.com">Walt.durkin@aol.com</a>	cell <b>813-853-5870</b>
VP: Ted Hagaman	813-455-4016
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
Ginny Fischer	813-495-5685
Bruce Anderson	813-786-3902
Jim Dye	941-730-3647
Keaton Anderson	404-313-7820

## **ANNUAL FLY FISHING BANQUET 2025**

### **Camaraderie, Charcuterie, and Bob Clouser**

Buy your tickets and make plans to attend our annual banquet on Saturday, March 29, 2025. This year we are hosting the party in Tampa and again joining with the Suncoast Club for a fun event. The evening will begin with a charcuterie appetizer table and socializing time between both clubs while everyone can make the rounds of the silent auction items and make their bids. There will also be guide trips, raffle baskets and giveaways. Catering by Ginos Italian Restaurant will make for a delicious dinner. Our guest speaker is the smallmouth bass guide, author and innovative fly tier Bob Clouser. His Clouser Minnow pattern has become famous for its ability to attract the largest variety of fish that swim, and we will hear some great fishing stories from a well known master angler. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at our club meeting or on the Suncoast Fly Fishers website (be sure to give online tickets credit to our club when ordering). Due to Bob's popularity and limited seating, attendance may be limited. The event will be held at The Carrollwood Recreation Center, 3515 McFarland Rd, Tampa, FL 3361. We will hold the banquet from 0400 PM to 0800 PM.



Here is an article on our guest speaker Bob Clouser from the Angler's Journal

"Clouser."

That's the one-word answer you hear most often when you ask a fly fisher what he caught his fish on. Clouser is short for the Clouser Deep Minnow. It is probably the most successful fly in the history of fly fishing. And the name of that fly is a tribute to its creator, Bob Clouser, our special guest.

A 2023 article in "*Angler's Journal*" about the Clouser was headlined 'One Fly To Rule Them All'. Bonefish and bass (smallmouth especially!) love it. Billfish have chased it. Freshwater trout, too. And to that you can probably add 100 more species. His good friend Lefty Kreh wrote that he caught 80-plus different kinds of fish on the Clouser.

Bob Clouser got hooked on fly tying and fly fishing way back in his high school years. Heck, it was the subject of his senior year graduation project. And in those succeeding years fly fishing, fly tying, and fly fishing friends have remained his true loves. He has guided fly fishers, written books, started a fly casting and fly tying school, and traveled around the world to tell his story and to demonstrate his Clouser fly tying secrets to thousands.

Thank you for all you do for fly fishing, Bob Clouser. And thank you for being our special guest today.

**We look forward to hosting Bob for our banquet with the Suncoast on Saturday. I hope to see you there. //Walt**

## 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 new club hats to offer in three colors (\$25).

In April, we will have our annual **trash and treasures** meeting. At this meeting you can donate fishing-related items you no longer use for other club members to bid on. This is a good fundraiser for us and passes on lightly used items at a low cost.

Please add 29 March to your calendar for our annual banquet with the Suncoast. **Times are 4 to 8 PM.** We are hosting this year in Tampa at the Carrollwood Rec Center. Buy tickets at our March meeting or email me to get tickets at the door.

The **Fly Fishing Film Tour** is coming to the Tampa Theater on 24 April. Tampa Bay Waterkeeper is the sponsor, so your attendance will help fund their efforts.

See this link to find one point of view on how the government cuts affect the Everglades:  
<https://www.everglades.org/watch-now-how-the-doge-cuts-are-impacting-floridas-national-parks/>

//Walt



## Catch of the Month Photo Contest

To all members of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. Here is your chance to be on the front page of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club website! Each month we will review and display the best member photo of your fishy catch. The best photo will be judged on the quality of fish caught, composition of the image as well as the excitement of the moment of the catch. Send all photos with subject line Photo Contest along with your first and last name to:

Tampabayffc@gmail.com

Be sure to show the lucky angler, the fish and lure (hopefully a fly) in your photo. All entries will receive a raffle ticket for a nice prize, which we will award at our annual Holiday Party! Club member Matt sent us this photo of a big snook in shallow water.



## Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Google Group

Keep in contact with your fishing friends through the TBFFC Google Groups!

This is a closed discussion between current club members that have joined the TBFFC Google Groups. This allows communication directly with other group members with anything related to fishing, outings, trips or anything fishy! To join the TBFFC Google Group, you will need an invitation to join.

- To be invited, send an email with your first and last name and email address that you want to communicate through to: Bruce Anderson  
[sightcaster@gmail.com](mailto:sightcaster@gmail.com)

- Once I receive your email, I will send an invite to your email address with an invitation to join the Group. Click on the invitation Link, and your email will be added to the group.

You will need a Google account to have access to the TBFFC Group. If you have a Gmail address, you already have a Google account. If you do not use Gmail, you can set up a Google account without using Google email. This can be done by doing a search for Google Sign in. If you attempt to sign in to Google without an existing account, a create account option will appear. Click this and create a Google account.

To access the TBFFC Group you must be logged into your Google account. So, be sure to log in first.

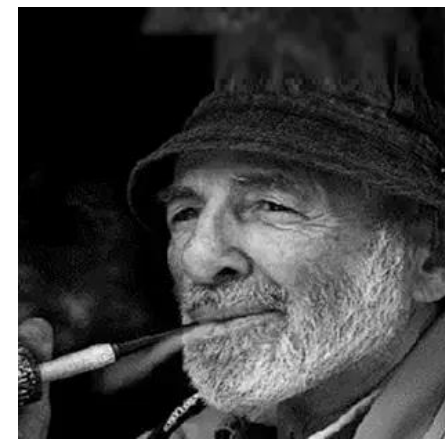
Next in the address bar type: [Groups.Google.com](https://groups.google.com) This will direct you to your Google Group home page. In the center of this page will be a list of all the groups you are a member, including the TBFFC Group. Click on the TBFFC group, and all the current discussions will be listed. A new discussion can be started by clicking on the New Conversation tab at the top left of the screen. If you experience any issues logging in or going through the process, please reach out to me.

Bruce Anderson

# Fly Casting Tips for March

## The Roll Cast

Let's talk about the importance of the roll cast as we move through Mel Krieger's book *The Essence of Fly Casting*. When Mel visited our club many years ago I remember him mentioning the roll cast was the first cast any beginner should learn. A good roll cast is an essential and versatile tool in our casting repertoire.



Mel explains it this way in Chapter 4 of his book: “The roll cast is a method of fly-casting in which the line is rolled forward without a back-cast. We also use it to position the line prior to a pickup (e.g., roll-casting a slack line into a straight position, roll-casting a sunken line to the surface of the water or even changing the direction of the line on the water before picking it up.”

Mel notes the roll cast is best done on water because you need some resistance on the front end of the line. Find a lake, pond, river or beach where you can practice with 25 or 30 feet of line. To start, place the leader and a few yards of line in the water in front of you. Strip line off the reel while shaking the rod tip to feed more slack line in front of you. Once you have sufficient line out, hold the line coming off the reel against the rod with a finger of your casting hand. Securing the line in this manner anchors the fly line while you cast. Do not hold the fly line with your left hand during this practice. Mel notes this will ensure you have no slack in the fly line between the left hand and fly rod. You are now set to begin practice.

I suggest you take this basic tip and spend some time on improving and perfecting your roll cast. Go to the internet or Mel's book to study and learn the mechanics of the cast. Then, start practicing as recommended in this tip. Perfecting this simple, but often-used cast will improve all your casting strokes and provide a valuable tool on the water. //Walt

Jonas, our chief fly casting instructor sent us this: “I have put together an e-book “Beginners guide to fly fishing”. For those interested the book can be found on Apple Books - Book store.”

Check it out!

The screenshot shows the Apple Books app interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Home, Book Store, Audiobook Store, Library (All, Want to Read, Finished, Books, Audiobooks, PDFs, My Samples), and a search bar containing 'jonas Magnusson'. The main content area displays the book 'Beginners guide to fly fishing' by Jonas Magnusson. The book cover features a person fishing on a boat. The title is displayed in large white letters: '\*BEGINNERS GUIDE TO FLY FISHING.'. Below the title, the author's name 'Jonas Magnusson' and the category 'Sports & Outdoors' are shown. The book is priced at \$9.99 and has 60 pages. A 'Sample' button is visible. Below the book details, there is a section titled 'From the Publisher' with the text: 'Short introduction to fly fishing with demo galleries.'



Club member Ken Moser fished with Capt. Bryon Chamberlin at the Chassahowitzka . It looks like they caught a beautiful day as well as red fish on the fly!



Capt. Bryon also sent us this report:

Hi Walt, I fished with Rusty Chinnis up at Chassahowitzka last Friday. We caught 14 redfish, 5 trout and finished the day on a nice snook.

I then fished with my buddy Capt. Honson Lau up at Chaz trying to target a big snook on fly but ended up with a bycatch redfish that taped out at 35.5 inches.



## **Fishing Report and Forecast**

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

Some first-time guided trips are more successful than others because of unclear expectations by both the client and the guide. Discussions of the day's activities and results by each group can be very revealing. When guides get together they want to know about the trip, and customers do likewise. I can't think of guides that frequently haven't been clients themselves on many occasions. When guides have a free fishing day, they often get together with another guide to exchange information. It is all part of a continuous learning experience. This may be more common in fly fishing because of increased interest by younger clients, people changing from offshore to inshore, freshwater to saltwater, and bait and spinning to the long rod. At a trout fly club event while in Pennsylvania I sat with 5 freshwater trout fishers who all said their dream was to catch a large tarpon on a fly rod. This means they would be using much heavier equipment from a moving boat, frequently casting in very windy conditions to a moving gigantic fish that will surely make their knees knock. Should both the guide and the client be prepared for serious disappointment?

Fly fisherman Pat Damico charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at [captpatdamico.com](http://captpatdamico.com) and 727-504-8649.

## Fishing Report

Snook should be staging on flats, around sand and oyster bars, on points of islands and around docks and bridges close to passes in the ICW. Fish the edges of bars and potholes when the tide is low and mangrove shorelines or points of islands when the tide is high. I like wide profile flies, such as Lefty's Deceiver, my Grasset Flats Bunny or EP flies, for snook on the flats

You'll also find snook around docks and bridges in the ICW. Night snook fishing should be productive with small white flies, like my Grasset Snook Minnow fly, shrimp patterns or Shrimp Gurglers. Fish peak tidal flows for the best action.

Reds will spend more time feeding on shallow flats due to more plentiful bait. Look for them in potholes, the edges of bars and around docks when the tide is low. You should find them higher on flats over shallow grass or around mangrove shorelines when the tide is high. My Grasset Flats Minnow is my "go to" fly for reds. It fishes well in shallow water and its bend back design makes it very weedless. You may also find big trout in skinny water in many of the same places that you find reds. The same flies and techniques used to find and catch reds will also work for big trout.

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



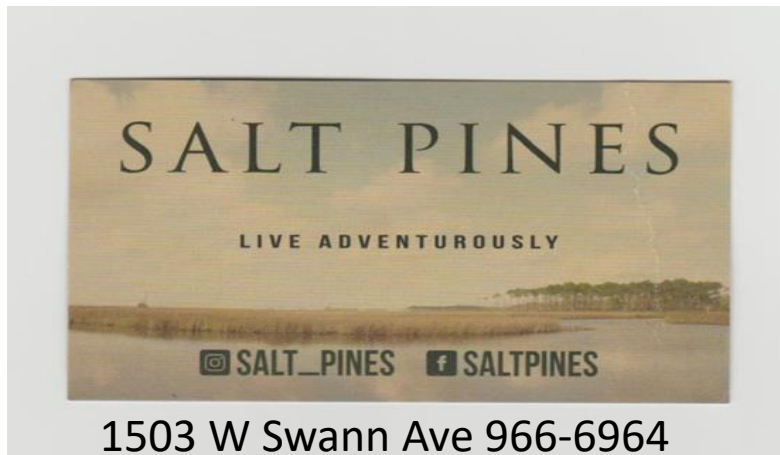
## 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 11 Fly Casting Seminar
- Jan 11 Red Fly Tournament
- Feb 14-15 Waterman Tournament
- Feb 22 Cypress Park Outing w/Suncoast
- Mar 29 Annual Banquet
- May 17 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct Carl Hanson, Hillsborough River
- Nov Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Dec Kayaking Suncoast Youth Center
- Dec 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..
- 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
- Tampa Fishing Outfitters, 3916 W. Osborne Ave, Tampa, FL; 813-870-1234, tampafishingoutfitters.com



JAFFE|TILCHIN  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
RICHARD HAPPLE, CFP®  
Investment Advisor Representative  
15350 N. Florida Ave.  
Tampa, FL 33613  
Investment Management  
Trust & Estate Services  
Retirement Planning  
Corporate Benefits  
Insurance Services  
Auto, Home & Business  
Direct 813.964.4217  
Cell 813.732.5190  
Fax 866.804.2637  
rhapple@jaffetilchin.com  
www.jaffetilchin.com

**Tampa Fishing Outfitters**  
**Largest tackle shop on the W. coast of FL**  
**great fly fishing gear**  
3916 W. Osborne Ave. Tampa Fl, 33614  
Phone: 813-870-1234  
Website: tampafishingoutfitters.com

**Carbon Marine**  
**Inshore fishing boat accessories, push poles and repair**  
Joe Welbourn  
(813) 928-9887  
jwelbourn@carbonmarine.com



# SaltFllys

*Custom Built Saltwater Flies*

CRAIG SMOTHERS

PHONE: (941) 266-5209

5526 SHADY BROOK TR.

EMAIL: SALTFLYS@GMAIL.COM

SARASOTA, FL. 34243

WEBSITE: WWW.SALTFLYS.COM



# The Fly Guy

Capt. Pat Damico

2981 E. Vina del Mar Blvd.

St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Tel. 727-504-8649

Hppt://captpat.com

pat4jaws@hotmail.com

# Barbed Steel Charters, Inc.

Specializing In Fly Fishing Along Florida's West Central Gulf Coast



Capt. Bryon Chamberlin

(813) 361-8801

captbryon@yahoo.com

www.barbedsteel.com

USCGI licensed operator



## JIM SWANN'S



Complete Fly Fishing Shop

Rods - Reels - Hand Tied Flies - Materials

Guide Service

Classes in Flying Tying and Casting

**352-567-6029**

13650 So. 98 Bypass  
Dade City, Fl. 33525

## 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 West .....813-971-8697

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