



# The Prez Sez *by Tom Gadacz*



**The Don Coleman Classic.** Here we are at the end of 2011 and will celebrate the Don Coleman Classic on December 17 at Fort DeSoto. This is a great event to conclude any year. It is not only an opportunity to fish but to recall memories of those who have contributed so much to fly fishing in this area. Unfortunately I never knew Don nor Carl Hansen but what a legacy they have left. They shared their love for fly fishing and opened their hearts and homes to anyone interested in fly fishing. I have enjoyed the stories about them. My first time at the Don Coleman Classic was only 4 years ago. The fishing was good, the chili was delicious, stories were great, and most of all the camaraderie was superb. A few years ago the weather was horrible with wind and rain in the early morning. Several of us stood under a shelter watching the storm pass on Robert Fischer’s smart phone, then fished when the worst had passed and ended the day with sun and a great chili lunch. We cannot promise great weather but we can promise two types of chili cooked by Alan. Members from the Tampa Bay, Mangrove Coast, Sunshine Coast, and Tarpon Coast Clubs are also invited. If you are so inclined, bring your favorite side dish. End the year with a fun event! See you there.

**SFF Christmas in January.** What do you give a fly fisher for Christmas? Perhaps we should ask what does a fly fisher want. Many of us already have our favorite rods, reels, lines, vises and equipment. There are a few or perhaps many items that we simply don’t use but are reluctant to get rid of because we just might need them. I have had some medical books that fall into the latter category and have been hauling them around for 5 years. When we moved to Florida we downsized our storage space and out they went to medical libraries (even they had no use for some of them, what a shock). The “treasures” we hold onto that we no longer use may prove to be a treasure to someone else. A reel we no longer use but is still functional, a rod that is no longer our favorite but can still cast a good line (but has all of its sections), or some other equipment that is “useful” but no longer used. Yes, these are the things we want you to bring to the January Trash and Treasures meeting on January 19. The SFF Christmas of giving and getting will be in January.

**Thanks to one and all.** I wish to thank our officers, board members and all of you for all the contributions you made to make us the best fly fishing club ever. On behalf of the SFF Officers and Board (Woody Miller, Roger Blanton, Ken Hofmeister, Dan Bumgarner, Hugh Copeland, Mark Craig, Ken Doty, Pat Damico, Paul Sequira, and Alan Sewell), we wish you a happy holiday. Peace, love and joy! And keep slack out of you lines (a.k.a. keep a tight line). .....*Tom*

## SFF UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 17 - Don Coleman Classic, Ft DeSoto
- Dec 2011 — No General Meeting
- Jan 19, 2012 Trash or Treasures Auction
- Mar 2-4, 2012 Tampa Tribune Expo
- March - Hog Roast - date to be determined
- April - Everglades - date to be determined

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## Outings—Reviews & Previews by Alan Sewell



### December Outing Dec. 17, 2011 at Fort DeSoto

**November Outing:** The Club had a two-part outing at Fort DeSoto. We started out at the East Beach with a great casting clinic provided by the F.F.F. Master Casting Instructor Captain Pat Damico. The event started with a refreshing breakfast by Richard Oldenski and wind from God. The wind is your friend; that's what Pat said. The wind did subside and we all learned a great many tips on casting. After about 3 hours we stopped and had a really great lunch. Food was stalked, looked at, sighted in, and killed by Mark Hays. (Deer sausages on the grill) Richard and Mark provided a satisfying lunch. We also had homemade smoked sausage provided by me.

The next part of the outing was an afternoon of fishing the flats. Lots of fish were caught, but the prize went to the first person to call me with the first legal size fish. That honor went to Woody (banana) Miller with a nice trout. HOW-EVER, that was not the biggest fish caught that afternoon. Rick Warfel caught several keeper trout with the largest measuring 25 inches. That does put him in as the leader in the yearly contest for trout.

### December Outing: Dec. 17, 2011

This outing is the Don Coleman Classic. We honor our deceased member and great fly fisher friend Don Coleman. He taught many people about fly fishing in his life, and still does with his publications. This is also our Chili Cooking event of the year. We will have great (maybe) Chili, but members can

bring any items to eat with the chili. Cornbread, salads, beans, deserts or anything you like is okay. We also invite local area fly fishing clubs, Tampa Bay, Mangrove Coast, and others to fish and eat with us. The prize will be the honor of which Club caught the most fish. Fishing will be at Fort Desoto and the food will be at the North Beach picnic area. Food will be served at 12:00 noon. This is always a fun event, and one not to miss. You will have fun at this outing. Come to fish or eat, but do show up.

### Future Outing Previews:

January 21, 2011 - Pinellas Point, Lunch at Bay Vista Park

### Fishing Tournament Results 2011-2012

Bass - David Mullens 14 inches

Snook- Open

Trout - Rick Warfel 25 inches

Redfish - Mark Hays 28 inches

Sunfish - Dan Manning 10 inches

Other - Dan Manning 16 inch Ladyfish

(All fish must meet FWC regulations minimum size )

*December — No Meeting*



*Merry Christmas*

*May Santa bring to you and all those you hold dear, all you wished for but mostly peace, love, happiness, friendship and joy.*

*From your editor, Paul Sequira*

# SFF Membership Renewal Form

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To renew your membership for 2011-2012 please complete this form and bring it to the meeting or mail it (address on back page).

## Suncoast Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address\* \_\_\_\_\_

City\* \_\_\_\_\_ State\* \_\_\_\_\_ Zip\* \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\* (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*This information is shown on the Membership List which is distributed to members only and is not used for commercial purposes. If you do not desire this information disclosed to members, please so indicate. The monthly newsletter, "On the Fly," is only distributed electronically. You may also obtain a copy from our web site: [www.suncoastflyfishers.com](http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com)

**Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) membership categories (select one):**

\_\_\_ Regular Membership 1 year \$15 (*September 2011-12*)

\_\_\_ Family Membership 1 year (includes Member, Spouse and children under 18) \$25

\_\_\_ Business Membership 1 year (includes monthly business card newsletter ad) \$100

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## SFF Membership Renewal for 2012

This is your last chance to renew your membership in the best fly fishing club on the west coast of Florida. What are you waiting for? You are driving your Treasurer, Roger Blanton nuts. He is the poor guy that has to keep track of our money and just who are members are. If you haven't renewed, you are now 3 months in arrears. Please be kind to Roger and fill out the renewal form above and mail it in to him along with your check to: Suncoast Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 40821, St Petersburg, FL 33743-0821

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## Casting Tips by Capt. Pat Damico, MCI

Casting tip 24:

Using false casting, not allowing the fly or line to hit the water or grass surface allows us to see how well our loops form. The rear loop and forward loops should be identical. This can only be accomplished by duplicating the rod's movement in both directions. Using a discarded length of rope or old fly line that is easily seen, place the pieces parallel to one another about 6 feet apart. Casting horizontally, keep the rod leg, the line closest to the rod, and the fly leg, the line closest to the fly inside the parallel guides. Have the rod tip just inside the line closest to you. Moving the one further from you closer will give you a guide to make your loops smaller. When you can keep your loops within the ropes when they are 2 or 3 feet apart with a longer line, you will have accomplished your goal of "tight" loops. Move the rod more vertical during the exercise to develop good loops in all casting planes.

## SFF News and Views

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### Casting Clinic Review 11-19-11 by Pat Damico, MCI

We had another very successful event on a day when anyone who wanted to learn to cast in the wind had their desire fulfilled. Richard's coffee and donuts woke us up as we rigged rods, marked lines and prepared for a great morning of casting. Woody Miller, Ken Doty, Alan Sewell, Robert Fischer and CI Chris O'Bryne provided careful instruction to our members as they honed their skills before applying their new tricks to the local waters after a great lunch provided by our own Hays family. I want to not only thank our instructors, but also all who attended. I would like to have seen more newer members in attendance, but they will have an opportunity when we do another one in spring.

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### Some Fish Were Caught

As Alan said, fish were caught at the Nov. 19th afternoon outing, Woody Miller caught the first legal sized fish but Rick Warfel caught the largest. Here are Rick's comments in an email to Alan along with a picture of his 25" trout.

"Alan,

*I had a great day fishing. I caught 7 trout and a big lizard fish that got me on the reel. Two of the trout were over the legal minimum. The first of these was the 16 incher that I reported around 1:45. The other was the fish in the pictures that I got at ten to three. It was huge. I marked the length against my fly rod and measured it at 25". The photos don't do it justice but it is really hard to take a good picture holding the rod, managing the fish and working the phone out of a zip lock bag without dropping something in the water. I caught everything on the same black and yellow clouser. Rick Warfel "*



Rick Warfel photo

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### SFF Welcomes New Member

The Suncoast Fly Fishers welcome new member David Putnam of St Petersburg. David, we hope that you will find your membership with SFF rewarding and enjoyable. Our club offers many activities and benefits as described on page 9 of this newsletter.

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### Fly Casting Help

Fly casting help and instruction usually held between 6:00 & 7:00 p.m. before the monthly meeting has been temporarily suspended because of darkness. It will resume in the spring.

## Just When You Thought It Was Safe To Go In The Cemetery *by Martin Skelly*

I went fishing Thursday in the cemetery around five in the afternoon. It was too windy for the flats at Fort Desoto. The cemetery was quiet as usual. I caught several blue gills and a nice bass.

I was standing on a bank that slopes at a 45-degree angle. My shoulders were even with the land. I had taken a forward cast with my 3wt. rod when I noticed how quiet it was. Then from the far right field of my vision, I saw a huge duck coming in for a landing. I could hear his wings flapping, then silence. It reminded me of a huge Coast Guard plane coming in. For the moment, I forgot about fishing and was looking at the wildlife. I was looking at the duck when I heard a different noise.

My rod was at 12 o'clock. My fly line was gone and I was into my backing. I looked at the reel in my right hand and then I looked out to the water. I didn't see my line, but when I looked at my reel the backing was still going out! Then I realized my rod was bent backwards. My fly line was on land and leaving fast. I got up on the bank just in time to see a squirrel running up a tree with my fly.

I flipped the tip of the rod and hooked the squirrel in foot (not on purpose). This was where it really got bad. The squirrel fell out of the tree and had an ATTITUDE. He tried to run back to the tree, and I flicked him down again. He charged me! I was reeling as fast as I could on my 3wt. I have only seen one other animal this mad. It was in New Orleans and it was an organ grinder's monkey when someone took his tin can away from him.

Back to the squirrel from hell. As he charged, I ran and stood behind a headstone. He took one huge leap and landed on the headstone in front of me. I jumped back and fell. It didn't take long for me to stand upright, and I realized all my slack was in. The only thing holding him back was a 5-foot 3wt. rod. I knew better than to try to reason with a squirrel that was hooked. I walked him two to three hundred yards over to the truck. As I opened the truck door and reached for a blanket, I found out one more thing: Never turn your eyes or back on a hooked squirrel. To make a long story short, I covered him with the blanket and he calmed down enough to pull the barbless hook out him. I am guessing he was about a pound and a half, because there is no way I could unroll him to measure how long he was. I never did see that duck land!

*PS ...I also went deep sea fishing, on Saturday and got a nice grouper, but it was out of season so had to release it.*

*It was a treat to receive an email from former SFF member and Past President Martin Skelly with this entertaining account of his recent fishing excursion. His adventures in cemeteries, on golf courses and other unusual fishing destinations were always fun to read and this one is no exception. I know Martin slipped over to the dark side for the grouper, but what the heck, it was a nice fish.....Paul*



Martin (seated) with an unidentified friend holding his out-of-season grouper just before release. Skelly photo

## Editor's Page by Paul Sequira

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Here we are, 2011 is ending and 2012 is just around the corner. There is no General Membership Meeting in December so this issue of *On The Fly* is the last chance to talk about the year gone by and new activities for next year.

I wish to thank all of you for all the nice things you have had to say about the newsletter. It has been my pleasure to put it together for you and I do truly appreciate your compliments. Your feedback is the only way I have to know if I am putting out the information and entertaining articles you want to see in our newsletter. I don't do it alone; in fact without the contributions of many members and some non-members, it would be a very dull and boring rag with only my thoughts and comments. But thankfully, that is not the case so here is my thank you to those of you who helped me by sending in articles and photographs. Thank you Tom Gadacz, Alan Sewell, Pat Damico, Ken Hofmeister, Marianne Hays, Charlie Most, Kitty Rich, John Craig, Bill AuCoin, Jeff Janecek, Tom Jones, Ted Rich, Dave McKay, Steve Gibson, Al Pitcher, Andy Constantinou, Mark Craig, Annie Hays, Dayle Mazzarella, Terry Kirkpatrick, Bryon Chamberlin, Layne Smith (AKA Smitty), Barbara Mazzarella, Mark Hays, Robert Fischer, Walt Ruda, Hugh Copeland, Ron Kelly and Martin Skelly. I hope I haven't missed anyone, if I have, please accept my apologies and understand that it was completely unintentional.

Let's talk about next year. Coming up in January is one of the most fun meetings of the year. SFF's Trash or Treasures Auction will take place at our regular January meeting with Alan Sewell doing the honors as auctioneer. Start now to dig out those unused or no longer favorite fishing or even non-fishing items that you think someone else can use and donate it to the auction. Rods, reels, flies, lures, books, coffee pots, gadgets – whatever. Let's face it, you have to make room for all that new stuff you'll be receiving from Santa Claus, so help out your club with a generous donation of stuff. Make sure you label it with your name so that Alan has some material to work with.

We have elections for new officers and directors coming up in March. If you have never served your club, now is the time to start thinking of doing so. Serving as a leader is more rewarding than you can imagine. We need people to serve on a nominating committee and Tom will be addressing that at the January meeting.

Shows – The Tampa Tribune Expo will be held at the Florida State Fairgrounds on March 2 thru 4. Bill AuCoin is our coordinator and he needs volunteers to help with fly tying or just talking about SFF with the crowd. We will also have a booth at the 2012 Florida Sportsman Show later in the year and we will need volunteers to help at that event also.

Coming up in March is the big event — The Hog Roast, Swine Dine or Good Ol' Fashion Pig Pickin' whatever you call it, this is the highlight of the year. If we're lucky, Marianne and Mark Hays will coordinate it for us again. The facilities at the Maria center in Gulfport are terrific and Leroy's catering really hit the mark. Start planning now to help us make this another winner.

One of our most popular and fun special events is the annual trip to fish the Everglades canals in the Ft Lauderdale area. This will be coming up sometime in April and once again Don Manning will be coordinating hotel accommodations for those members who would like to join in the fun. Look for more information in the months to come.

Here is a link that was sent to me by a fishing buddy from up north. I think you will get a chuckle out of seeing the state of the art in fly casting the way it was in 1956. Thank goodness for graphite fly rods. I enjoyed it and I think you will too. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=-OKaWOtZ4IA#!](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=-OKaWOtZ4IA#!)

So, until next year – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year catch a lot of fish and stay safe.  
.....Paul

# Tying Bench — Green and Gold

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*Our December outing is officially called the Don Coleman Classic. It is our annual tribute to our dear departed and much missed friend and former member Don Coleman. Don generously devoted his time and considerable skills to teaching new fly fishers how to tie flies and cast with a fly rod. Don's love of everything associated with fly fishing was only exceeded by his love for people and passing on his vast knowledge to whom ever wanted to learn. We all miss Don's smiling face and good nature. I thought this month it would be good to lift a page out of Don's book "Random Thoughts From The Tying Bench" and publish Don's comments and directions for tying one of his favorite flies. ....PS*



## The Green and Gold by Don Coleman

THE GREEN AND GOLD -- This wonderful bendback pattern was developed by Leigh West of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. Leigh usually ties this pattern on a 2/0 standard length saltwater hook. Here are Leigh's own words, "This fly is easy to tie and it's virtually weedless and maintenance free. It doesn't resemble any type of baitfish, and is a more subdued attractor pattern. It just happens to look right in place over the grass flats and yellow sand pot holes in our area. The Flashabou sides give the fly a lot of flash and movement, even when worked slowly. This fly works well on redfish, snook, and trout. Scale down the proportions and hook size for winter/clear water situations and for tailing redfish." Leigh considers it an alternative to a gold spoon. It is tied as a bendback with all of the components of the wing tied in immediately behind the hook eye. Here is how to tie Leigh's Green and Gold:

### Materials:

- Hook: Mustad 3407 or similar size 2/0
- Thread: Brown 3/0
- Body: Gold Flashabou over wrapped with clear vinyl rib
- Wing: alternate bands of olive deer tail and gold Flashabou

### Directions:

1. Debarb and sharpen and bend the hook.
2. Then wrap on a gold flashabou body and over wrap with vinyl rib or 20 pound clear monofilament.
3. Wing the fly with alternating layers of gold flashabou and soft brown or olive bucktail. Use two sparse layers of bucktail with the first layer being 1 1/3 times the hook length and the second layer 1 2/3 times the hook length.
4. Top the fly with a generous (as large as preceding layers combined) amount of peacock herl twice the length of the hook.
5. Tie in lateral lines with several strands of gold flashabou.
6. Then build a brown thread head and whip finish.

# SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS INFORMATION

## SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

### *Our Aims and Purpose*

*The Suncoast Fly Fishers are dedicated to sharing their total fly fishing experiences and to developing interest in fly fishing in both fresh and saltwater. We shall promote and teach both fly fishing and related subjects of fly tying, rod building, fly casting and knot tying.. Through collaboration, fellowship, conservation and sportsmanship, we will help members become more skilled, have more fun and be more productive in the sport. Suncoast Fly Fishers support the conservation of natural resources, boating safety and fishing regulations.*

## BENEFITS OF SUNCOAST FLY FISHER MEMBERSHIP

- Monthly membership meetings with outstanding local speakers on fly fishing, fly tying, rod building, marine conservation and exotic fishing trips worldwide.
- Free fly casting, fly tying & knot tying instructions.
- Monthly club outings in local fresh and saltwater locales topped off with top notch lunches and story telling of the day's catch.
- Joint outings with other clubs in Florida.
- Monthly electronic newsletters with local fishing and club activity information plus fly tying instruction sheets and color photos.
- A professional website with fishing reports, links, club activity photos etc.
- Club hats and shirts.
- Annual award winning Pig Roast with first class auction.
- Charter club of the Federation of Fly Fishers.
- Make new friends and find a fishing buddy for your next fishing adventure.

## Suncoast Fly Fishers, Your Board Of Directors Working For You

Activities are at the heart of any successful organization. SFF's BOD has instituted the following Standing Committees to help us maintain a high level of activities that have proven to be popular with the membership and some new ones to fill a need as expressed through membership surveys. These committees are generally chaired by board members but you do not have to be a board member to fill that position. If you would like to volunteer to participate on any of these committees, please speak to any director.

Committees are as follows:

- Casting Skills - Pat Damico
- FFF Liaison - Pat Damico
- Fly Tying - Alan Sewell
- Membership - Pat Damico & Roger Blanton
- Newsletter - Paul Sequeira
- Outings - Alan Sewell
- Publicity - Roger Blanton
- Programs - BOD
- Project Healing Waters - Terry Kirkpatrick & John Craig
- Raffles - Tom Hummel & Bryan Jankovic
- Shows & Special Events - Woody Miller
- Web Editor - Woody Miller

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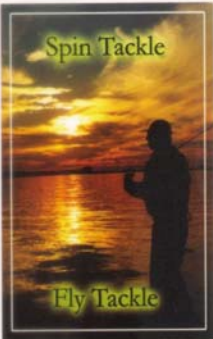
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# SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS INFORMATION

## Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) and Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) Dues

At initial membership dues are collected for both SFF and FFF. Since we (SFF) are a Charter member of FFF, all SFF members have to be members of FFF. After the initial dues you are responsible to directly pay yearly dues to FFF. The dues period of SFF and FFF may not coincide. We do not collect the yearly dues for the Federation (FFF). You will receive dues notification directly from FFF.

SFF dues are due in September. This is for the remaining months of 2009 and then through August of 2010. Members whose dues are delinquent for 2 or more months may lose their SFF membership. See Tom Gadacz for renewal forms.

## LOCAL FISHING GUIDES

Capt. Nick Angelo, Tampa Bay 813-230-8473  
Capt. Dan Bumgarner, Tampa Bay 727-526-7565  
Capt. Frank Bourgeois, Offshore Hernando County 352-666-6234  
Capt. Bryon Chamberlin, Tampa Bay 813-361-8801  
Capt. Dave Chouinard, Tampa Bay 732-610-9700  
Capt. Pat Damico, Tampa Bay 727-360-6466  
Capt. Dave Dant, Tampa Bay 727-744-9039  
Steve Gibson, Sarasota Bay 941-284-3406  
Capt. Rick Grasset, Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Tampa Bay 941-923-7799  
Capt. Pete Greenan, Boca Grande, Everglades 941-923-6095  
Capt. Paul Hawkins, Tampa Bay 727-560-6762  
Capt. Ray Markham, Sarasota and Tampa bays 941-723-2655  
Capt. Russ Shirley, Tampa Bay 727-343-1957  
Capt. Wayne Simmons, Tampa Bay Area 727-204-4188  
Capt. Steve Soult, Nature Coast Area 352-686-0853  
Capt. Jason Stock, St. Petersburg-Englewood, 727-459-5899.  
Jim Swann - fresh water 352-567-6029

## Wading The Saltwater Flats With A Fly Rod and Random Thoughts From The Tying Bench By Don Coleman

With the original printing of Don's book, SFF gave a copy to all current and then new members when they joined the club. We have a good supply of these books; if you are a recent new member who did not receive a copy, please see Tom Gadacz at the meeting or call him at 727-360-8030.

Other members who would like an additional copy or non-members who would like a copy may purchase one for \$5.00 (plus postage if mailing is required). This book is loaded with excellent information and is a wonderful keepsake of a much missed member and friend of the club.

## SFF Photo Gallery



In an email from Robert Fischer he sent in these pictures of his recent trip (October) to Mexico for some terrific fishing. Robert said "Last month I went to Xcalak, Mexico with some friends. Got my first permit and lots of bonefish, one that went 7 pounds, on my 5wt. Had a tarpon on my 9 wt for 10 minutes but he threw the hook just as we were reaching for the leader. Great trip."



## SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

### Club Officers

President: Tom Gadacz 727-360-8030

Vice President: Woody Miller 727-560-6086

Secretary: Ken Hofmeister

Treasurer: Roger Blanton

### Board of Directors

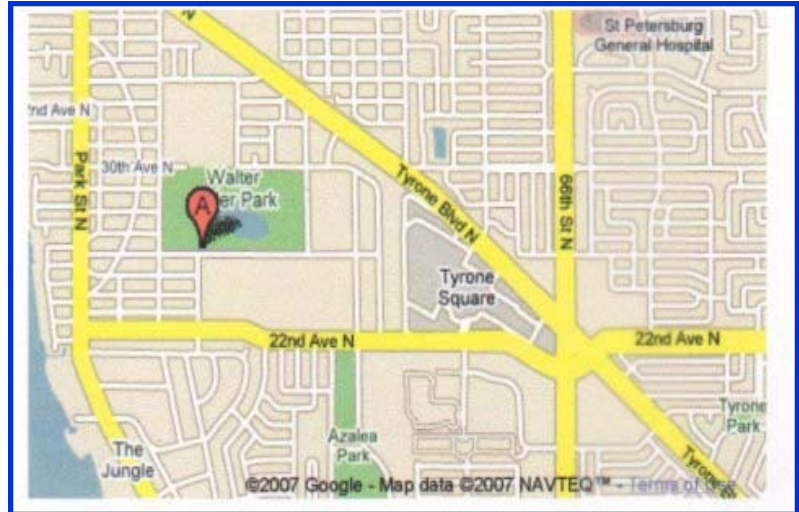
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Mark Craig - Pat Damico - Ken Doty

Paul Sequira - Alan Sewell

“On the Fly” is the monthly newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF), a not-for-profit organization offering fly fishing and fly tying instruction to members and visitors. Club membership includes newsletter subscription. Send e-mail submissions to the editor, Paul Sequira

[psequira@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:psequira@tampabay.rr.com)



**Next Club Meeting: January 19, 2012**

**Time: 6:30-7:00 PM Fly Tying**

**7:00-8:30 Meeting & Program**

**Location: Walter Fuller Park**

**7891 26 Avenue, N, St. Petersburg, FL 33710**

**THERE IS NO DECEMBER 2011 MEETING**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW  
YEAR TO ALL**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

<http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com/>

*Suncoast Fly Fishers*

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