

On The Fly

December 2012 Volume 22, Issue 12

Prez Sez

By Tom Gadacz, President, Suncoast Fly Fishers

The Don Coleman Classic. December 15 (Saturday). This is our grand finale outing of 2012. Make plans to attend and enjoy some great fishing, Alan's chili, some stories about Don Coleman and great camaraderie. Fort DeSoto is great for wading, kayaking and boat fishing. We will end a great year for SFF and also be joined by members from the Tampa Bay, Mangrove Coast, and Tarpon Coast Clubs. You are welcomed to bring your favorite side dish if you wish. See you Saturday.



SFF Christmas in January. Our January meeting will be the "Trash and Treasures" auction. During the Christmas holidays check through

your fly fishing gear and identify a few treasures for the January meeting. This will give some new as well as older members a chance to pick up some "treasures". We appreciate the reel or rod you no longer use or any other functional gear. Alan will be the auctioneer and we plan to have plenty of fun.

Some Accomplishments. This was a great year for SFF. We had great speakers at our membership meetings. Annie Hays described her Bighorn River Youth Adventure, a four-day fly tying and fly fishing adventure in Montana. The casting clinics were phenomenal and we are getting better and better. Great sessions for beginners as well as those who are now double hauling. We had great outings with better and better lunches and very successful outreach programs.

Terry Kirkpatrick and John Craig are doing a fantastic job at Bay Pines Project Healing Waters. One of the veterans won a top prize for a rod she built with Alan Sewell's great assistance. She was awarded a fly fishing trip out west plus Orvis gear. We had a kayak outing at Fort DeSoto with a group of veterans and most recently Pat Damico organized a spectacular fishing outing at the Bradenton Yacht Club with veterans from Florida's east coast.

Marine Quest was another great success and thanks to Bill AuCoin for organizing the event and all of you who helped the kids tie flies and talked to the visitors. We also had a booth at the Florida Sportsman show.

We have shared programs with the Florida Gulf Coast Fishing Center and Interactive Museum.

Also in this issue of On The Fly

NEWSLETTER OF THE SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

On The Fly

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Prez Sez, continued

Director Jim Simon coordinated programs with Kirk Burton, Ken Hofmeister, and Richard Oldenski to teach a fly fishing course and a program with the Pinellas County School Fishing Clubs. The International Federation of Fly Fishers awarded SFF a generous grant for a fly fishing exhibit at the facility. The exhibit is a permanent part of the Museum. We are making great strides in promoting fly fishing in our area and thank all of you who have helped support these programs.

THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR. 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, Paul Sequira, Dan Bumgarner, Kirk Burton, Hugh Copeland, Mark Craig, Pat Damico, Myron Hansen, Alan Sewell, and myself), we wish you a happy holiday.

Keep slack out of your lines AND/OR keep your loops tight!

Peace, love and joy!

Tom

Suncoast Fly Fishers News 'n Notes

February meeting –Leigh West.

January's meeting is our annual trash-and-treasures auction. Bring cash. February's meeting spotlights Leigh West as a fly tyer and a presenter. Leigh is a long-time member, former president and board member of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club and a member of the Sunshine State Casting Club. West has extensive fly fishing experience for both freshwater and saltwater species (trout in Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Utah and New York; bonefish in the Florida Keys, Mexico, Bahamas and Christmas Island; tarpon in the Florida Keys) and over 20 years of fly fishing experience on Tampa and Sarasota Bay area waters. He enjoys sharing his knowledge of fly fishing, casting, rigging and tying with his friends and fellow fly fishers. Leigh will tie a few of his favorite fly patterns for redfish, snook and trout, and follow up with a slide presentation on wade fishing strategies.

New members: Stephen McManus, Duncan Going and Bryan Jankovic

Suncoast Fly Fishers welcomes three new members. We've asked for each to send in a few words about themselves. This just in: Duncan Going, who lives in Seminole, reports that he has been fly fishing since the age of 16 in South Africa. He was tying flies by the age of 19. Duncan moved to Florida in 2000 and started saltwater fly fishing. He was a member of SFF in 2004-05 and now has rejoined the club.

New Treasurer: Paul Sequira

Paul Sequira has been unanimously approved by the board of directors to serve as treasurer succeeding Roger Blanton. Meanwhile, directors have selected four members to head up the 2013 nominating committee and they'll be announced at the January meeting.

February Dates for Smitty's Grand Slam Fly Tying Workshop

In February Layne (Smitty) Smith will lead 11 SFF fly-tyers in four workshops to learn to tie flies designed to catch the Suncoast Grand Slam – tarpon, snook, redfish and speckled trout. Smitty will direct four 90-minute evening sessions on the Mondays in February -- 4, 11, 18 and 25. Time: 6 -7:30 pm. Tyers will meet in the conference room of John Craig's High Performance Plumbing at 4450 Morris Street North. GOOD NEWS: Smitty reports that he plans to repeat the workshops a couple of times a year. The first workshop is booked solid. Better get in line for the second.

We are Suncoast Fly Fishers

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER. NEXT MEETING, JANUARY 17 – TRASH AND TREASURES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 – DON COLEMAN CLASSIC. FORT DE SOTO PARK

Monthly Meetings

Suncoast Fly Fishers meet the third Thursday of each month (except December) at Walter Fuller Park, 7891 26 Avenue N. St. Petersburg, FL 33710

- 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Fly tying
- 7:00—8:00 pm – Meeting and program



Suncoast Fly Fishers

P. O. Box 40821, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821
<http://suncoastflyfishers.com/>

Club Officers

President: Tom Gadacz 727-360-8030
Vice President: Woody Miller, 727-560-6086
Secretary: Ken Hofmeister 725-521-1637
Treasurer: Paul Sequira

Board of Directors

Dan Bumgarner – Kirk Burton
Hugh Copeland – Mark Craig
Pat Damico – Myron Hansen– Alan Sewell

Committees

Volunteers welcome. Please speak to any director.

Casting Skills – Pat Damico, Dayle Mazzarella

FFF Liason—Pat Damico

Fly Tying – Myron Hansen

Membership – Vacant

Webmaster – Woody Miller

Hog Roast – Richard Oldenski

Outings – Alan Sewell

Outing lunches – Richard Oldenski, Mark Hays

Project Healing Waters – John Craig, Terry Kirkpatrick

Raffles – Tom Hummel, Bryan Jankovic

Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fishing – Kirk Burton, Tom

Gadacz, Ken Hofmeister, Richard Oldenski

Programs: Board of directors

Newsletter/Publicity – Bill AuCoin

SFF Club Calendar

- December 15. Don Coleman Classic at Fort DeSoto. SFF has invited members of other clubs to join in this tribute to deceased SFF member Don Coleman who wrote *Wading the Saltwater Flats with a Fly Rod*. Coleman dedicated it to his wife and also his good friend and fishing partner, Paul Sequira, editor emeritus of ON THE FLY, and to the memory of Carl Hanson who died June 7, 1998. HUBBA, HUBBA BONUS: Alan's making chili.
- January 17 meeting, Walter Fuller Park – Trash and Treasures auction. Bring cash.
- February 21 meeting, Walter Fuller Park – Leigh West ties flies and talks about the inshore slam.
- February (date tbd)-- special outing to fish the Shad Run on the St. John's River
- Hog Roast, March 23, 2013. Get ready for good food and entertainment, auctions, raffle, prizes.



Alan Sewell's Fishing Reviews & Previews

November 17, 2012 - Project Healing Waters Bradenton Yacht Club Event at Palmetto's Emerson Point

There were two events held this weekend. PHW had a Veterans fly-fishing event held at the Bradenton Yacht Club. Some of our members worked as volunteers helping the vets fly fish. This was a great success and you can read more about this event in another article in our newsletter. The rest of SFF fished at Emerson Point, which was the same area as the vets fished. I was having my knee operation and missed both outings. I did hear that the vets caught more fish than our members. Richard prepared lunch, which I am sure was a success.

December 15, 2012 - Don Coleman Memorial Tournament and Chili Outing.

This is a fishing and eating outing event celebrating our past member, Don Coleman. Don was a great fisherman, and a great friend. We will talk about his contributions to fly fishing and our Club at this outing. The SFF invites all of the area Clubs to this event. SFF provides all of the chili, but anyone who would like to bring side items such as cornbread, desserts or anything to go with chili, please help yourself. The event is being held at Fort DeSoto Park. Bring your waders, kayaks, canoes, boats and appetites. Lunch will be served at the North Beach picnic area. The pavilion will be the first one at the south end of the North Beach parking lot. Please come and celebrate with your Club members, even if it just to laugh and eat.

January 19th, 2013 - Pinellas Point

February, 2013 - St. Johns River Shad Run

2012 - 2013 Fishing Tournament Results

Trout - Tie--Mark Hays - 18.5 inches. Tom Hummel - 18.5 inches.

Bass - open

Snook - open

Redfish - open

Other Fish - open

Sunfish - Robert Fischer - 9.75 inches

IMPORTANT -- All fish must meet minimum size by FWC rules. Any fish may be entered for each category when we are having an outing and you must pass the strictest investigation.



Crab Buoy Award

Woody Miller graciously accepts the first Suncoast Fly Fishers' Crab Buoy with a Mustache award. Alan explains, "At the outing Woody stepped off a dock but it happened to be six feet deep. His shaven head was popping along like a crab buoy."

Ready Set Go

Craig Crumbliss: Shad Alley on the St. Johns

February's outing is shad fishing on the St. Johns River. Here's what you need to know.

The St. Johns River hosts a winter migration of American shad starting about now and reaching a peak about the time – fingers are crossed – that Suncoast Fly Fishers go there in mid-February. It's kind of a big deal, as Capt. Craig Crumbliss reminded us at the November meeting.

He tied shad flies (See Tying Bench) and then gave us the bullet-by-bullet low down on what we are going to need to know, the flies we'll need, and how to fake out these 15-inch 3 and 4 pound fish that fight, Craig reminded us, like baby tarpon. Oh boy.



Ready. Set. Go.

Where: Shad Alley on the St. Johns is the stretch of river from Lake Monroe down to Highway 50. Boat ramps are at Lemon Bluff, Mullet Lake Park, Jolly Gator Fish Camp, Hatbill Park and Highway 50 ramp. Look 'em up.

Where are the fish? Shad usually travel near the bottom. They often hold in deep bends and holds. Sometimes you'll see them on the surface.

How: Shad live in moving water so many of the techniques used for trout are effective for shad. You'll want to mend your line as the fly drifts downstream. Cast across the current. Strip. Raise your rod tip as the fly completes its drift. Let the fly swing downstream at the end of the drift to help you load the rod for the next cast.

Flies? Bring a lot of them. You'll lose a few. Naturals like Hare's Ear, Muddler Minnow and Woolly Buggler are effective. Attractors that have proven themselves include Shad Darts, Clousers, Tommy's Torpedo. Size 4-8. Red, pink, chartreuse, purple, white, pearl, silver. Tandems are very effective.

Rods: 4 to 8 wt. Craig likes to fish a 9-foot 6-weight.

Line: You could end up using all three -- floating, sink tip and floating. Bite tippet – 8 to 10 lb test

Waders? Oh yes. Water temp is about 55 degrees. C...c...c...can you say, hypothermia?

Contact: Capt. Craig Crumbliss, No Motor Guide Service, Email: <nomotorguide@yahoo.com>

Tying Bench – Simple Shad Dart by Craig Crumbliss

This is my go-to fly for the St. Johns River shad run. Creativity is key; use a variety of colors and weights. I'll often have the same pattern with bead chain and dumb-bell eyes. Remember to keep your patterns relatively small; sizes 6 and 8 are best. I'll also have a



few in sizes 4 and 10. Some of my favorite colors to include are: chartreuse, pink, pearl, silver, yellow, and red. A variety of patterns will work but most are based around several basic patterns such as the Woolly Bugger, Clouser Minnow, Gotcha, and Crazy Charlie.

Materials

Hook: Mustad 3366 Size 4-8

Thread: 140 Denier Flat Waxed

Tail: Pearl Flashabou

Body: Vinyl Ribbing

Eyes: Silver Bead Chain

Head: Antron Dubbing or Uni-Yarn



Tying Instructions

1. Start a layer of thread from the hook eye to the start of the bend.
2. Tie in your Flashabou tail. Remember to keep it short as the Shad will nip the longer tails.
3. Tie the bead chain or dumb-bell eyes behind the eye of the hook and remember to give yourself some space for the head.
4. Tie in your vinyl ribbing behind the eyes and wind it all the way down towards the tail. Move your thread back towards the eye. Wrap vinyl rib all the way up to the eyes and tie it off.
5. Tie in a piece of Uni-Yarn to wrap around the eyes to form a dubbed head. You can also use any other type of shaggy dubbing and get the same effect.
6. Whip finish behind the eye of the hook.



Suncoast Fly Fishers Report

FLORIDA GUIDES AND FLY CLUBS TAKE DISABLED VETS FISHING

Project Healing Water's mission is the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled military personnel and veterans through fly fishing, fly tying, fly casting, rod building and outings. On November 15 vets went fly-fishing from the Bradenton Yacht Club. It was a chilly but heart-warming day

By Pat Damico. Photos by Pat Damico and Tom Gadacz



Flats boats with guides, PHWFF participants and volunteers eased their boats into the bountiful waters of the Manatee River and the mouth of Tampa Bay early on a Saturday morning to take part in a unique event that took months of careful preparation. It all began early last winter when Mike Reeves of Bradenton Yacht Club was approached by local PHWFF volunteers to use their outstanding facility to host the event. The Yacht's BOD immediately not only gave their approval, but also contacted generous members for financial support allowing our participants to have their motel



rooms, Friday evening BarBQ, Saturday morning continental breakfast and Saturday lunch provided without PHWFF incurring any expenses. Yacht Club personnel insured that all needs were met proactively.

Left, Pat Damico, who coordinated the fly fishing event for disabled vets, presents a thank you award to Mike Reeves and the Bradenton Yacht Club for hosting the Project Healing Waters event.

Continued on next page

Suncoast Fly Fishers Report

Continued from previous page

PHWFF's mission is to assist in the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled military service personnel and veterans through fly fishing, fly tying, fly casting, rod building and outings. We have over 130 active programs at military bases and VA facilities where volunteers from Trout Unlimited, International Federation of Fly Fishers and some independent fly fishing clubs meet regularly with our military personnel teaching these subjects.

A chilly northeast wind and overcast skies when boats departed soon was replaced with sunshine and calmer conditions allowing all participants to catch fish under the watchful guidance of their guides and club volunteers. After four hours on the water, our returning vets approached the dock with beaming smiles and thumbs up signals that were soon followed by multiple fish stories and fellowship. Some of the conversation indicated that the guides and volunteers had as much or more fun than the fishermen. A wonderful lunch was followed by presentation of awards which included two complete fly fishing outfits and also fly tying vises for largest and most fish caught during the morning.



Without our local guides who donated their time to this event it would not have been possible. BYC personnel want to do this again and fly club volunteers, some traveling as far as Orlando, Daytona and Jacksonville are already planning similar events on the east coast. Hells Bay Boat works had three of their guides from Titusville as well as a number of local guides using their excellent boats. Renzetti vises, Mosquito Creek Outdoors, Travel Country Outdoors, Orlando Outfitters and local Flint Creek Outfitters all contributed to making this a very successful event. Suncoast members Tom Gadacz and Terry Kirkpatrick were volunteers accompanying vets on boats and Capt. C A Richardson donated his time together with TBFFC Captains: Bryon Chamberlain, Nick Angelo, Steve Parker, Frank Rhodes, and John Hand. Local Captains Tim Whitfield and Wes Burns also were participants.

Mike Reeves summed it up nicely, "There are good days and great days, Saturday was a tremendous day!"

Visit www.projecthealingwaters.org for more information about this very worthwhile organization. And for more pictures, go to the Suncoast Fly Fishers website, www.suncoastflyfishers.com



Suncoast Fly Fishers Report

Ken Hofmeister and Joe Dail in Belize

HOW TO CATCH A BONEFISH

By Ken Hofmeister

LET GO...of doing the same thing and expecting different results (one definition of insanity).

PRACTICE...applying lessons learned.

REMEMBER...don't move your feet (fish feel it--but not pole on the side of boat) ...Strip strike (instead of rod tip strike) ...Cast to, not over or short of the school ...Use the right color fly ...Don't use cross-eyed flies ...Be ready--but not "buck fever" eager ...Forget excuses--ask for feedback ...Cast low into the wind ...Don't move rod when stripping line ...Point your rod at the line when stripping ...When the guide says fish at "nine o'clock" don't go digital on him ...Laugh and joke a lot -- it's all for fun ...Let bonefish run before setting hook (but not in the mangroves) ...Listen to guide (as in "Listen to me, Gringo") ...Let the guide borrow your raincoat and share your lunch ...When guide says "fish 30 feet at twelve o'clock" don't say "where?" ...Check your knots ...It's easier in casting clinic than in the wind on a rocking boat.

THANKS FOR ...Superb days ...Patient guide ...Catching some bonefish ...Bonefish flies (thanks Morgan, John) ...Good coaching ...Doing what I enjoy with people I like and where I wanted to be ...Outrageous breakfast jokes ...Great dinner—(grouper steamed in banana leaf) ...Experience of a lifetime ...Happy Memories.



Suncoast Fly Fishers Ken Hofmeister, left, and Joe Dail display (in their hands and on their faces) some of the fruits of their Belize experience.

Suncoast Fly Fishers Report

Tom Jones: The bite is still good on lighted docks

Night Time is the Right Time for Tom and Tennessee Tom Hogan

By Tom Jones

Tommy Hogan, our guest from Middle Tennessee Fly Fishers and a leader in Project Healing Waters, enjoyed some lighted dock fishing with Ken Hofmeister then he joined me for more of the same. Tommy showed up early at my house to help me get the boat ready. (I'm still on crutches.) We were in the water just in time to witness the last vestiges of a beautifully calm sunset as we headed out from Maximo Park. The wind remained calm the whole evening until midnight when we quit.

We caught a bunch of trout and a few ladyfish but lost track of how many. Tommy got the bragging rights for both nights with an 18-inch trout caught on a "Tennessee" Clouser; that's the best name we could come up with since he didn't know the name of it. See photo below. The other two keepers were caught on a DNA minnow and a Gummi-Body minnow (see photos below). I make a habit of checking the stomach contents of the fish I clean and these were full of small bait fish. Imagine that.

I was anxious to try out my new floating shrimp pattern but the fish were not hitting the surface. That'll just have to wait until they are feeding on shrimp.

We took home the three legal trout for a Cajun trout feast which my wife Libit prepared before Tommy headed back to Tennessee.



>>> Tommy Hogan, unaware of the rule against outfishing the skipper, boated the biggest trout. He was forgiven, since this was his first outing on my boat. But watch out, you other boaters. He may be back for more, playing ignorant all over again. TJ



<<<The top Gummi Body finish had worn away a bit due to either the saltwater or the abrasion of being eaten by several fish. The bottom one was made thicker and shows what the finish was like before fishing.

>>>This little DNA minnow has been my most productive fly since the dock light fishing picked up last midwinter. I have consistently caught more and larger fish since I've been using it.



Suncoast Fly Fishers Report

Andy Constantinou: Photos from Latimer, Buckingham

iPad and iPhone snaps from England.

"You select the best," Andy said



Suncoast Fly Fisher Andy Constantinou spends part of the year in England and part of the year in Florida. Here he shows off a 3.5-lb rainbow caught on Latimer Lake. Andy reports that the lake where he fishes was originally dug out for the house and notes that Wikipedia has the interesting background about this historic house and lake. The mansion on the hill was home to the Cavendish family, later the barons Chesham. For more info, go [here](#).



Fly Fishing First Aid and Prevention

Richard Oldenski: Hypothermia



Like the homeless, wading fly fishers are at risk. Florida waters can get pretty cold, too, you know.

By Richard Oldenski MD

Hypothermia is a medical emergency in which the body's core temperature is decreased to a level at which normal muscular, cerebral and cardiac functions are impaired. You would not expect this condition to occur in Florida, but it does. In 2011, hypothermia took the life of a



57-year-old man when he fell out of his boat while fishing on Lake Maude in Winter Haven. A 22-year-old Lakeland man died of hypothermia on a kayaking excursion on Tampa Bay even though he wore a life jacket. In the past hypothermia occurred mostly among the homeless and the elderly, but recreational exposure to cold environments is now the main cause of hypothermia in the United States. Florida fly fishermen are at risk when wading, kayaking or boating in cold water. We need to be able to recognize and prevent hypothermia.

If your body temperature drops below 95 degrees, your body cannot function properly

How cold does water have to be to cause hypothermia? Colder than you. The thermal conductivity of water is 25 to 30 times that of air. When you're wading in water, your body heat is being transferred to the water. The part of your body above the water is exposed to the wind chill which also lowers your body temperature as your heat is transferred to the air by convection. If your clothes are wet, as they often are when you're in your kayak your body gets cooler as the moisture evaporates. If you lose heat faster than your body can produce it, your core body temperature will drop below 98.6 degrees. When your core temperature drops below 95 degrees, your body cannot function properly. The brain and the heart are especially vulnerable. According to the U.S. Search and Rescue Task Force, the survival time in water at 50 degrees Fahrenheit is 1 to 3 hours. Our local waters usual get down to 50 degrees in the winter.

Symptom: Sloppy Casting

With mild hypothermia, you will feel cold and start to shiver. Your casting will get sloppy as you find it hard to concentrate and your coordination is impaired. At this point get out of the water and into a warm place. Remove any wet clothing and put on heavier dry clothes. If you're still shivering, cover up in blankets and warm up with hot water bottles or heating pads on your abdomen, groin and under arms. Have something warm to drink, but not alcohol.

Continued>>>

Fly Fishing First Aid and Prevention

Richard Oldenski: Hypothermia

Continued from previous page

If your temperature continues to drop, you may not notice, but your companions will, and they should call for emergency care. Your shivering will get more violent and you will get irritable and confused. Your muscles will get weak and you will be unable to walk. You will curl up into a fetal position and become unresponsive with pale skin, dilated pupils and a slow pulse. At this point you are at high risk for cardiac arrhythmias and cardiac arrest.

If medical care is not readily available, the person should be warmed slowly and gently starting with the chest, abdomen, groin, head and neck. Warming and massaging the extremities drives cold blood toward the heart and can lead to cardiac arrest. Get the person into dry clothing and wrap him or her in blankets covering the head and neck. If necessary, use your body heat to help. Do not attempt to give an unconscious person anything to drink, but a conscious person can be given warm non-alcoholic beverages. **Be prepared to start CPR if the person has no pulse, and continue until medical care arrives.** Hypothermia victims have been successfully revived and survived after extended treatment with CPR.

Here are some measures to prevent hypothermia:

Keep dry and stay out of the wind.

Wear clothing that will keep you warm and dry. Synthetic fabrics and wool are superior to cotton because they provide better insulation when wet or dry. Layer your clothing for better insulation. Wear waders and a warm hat.

Increase your energy reserve by having a good hot meal before going out on the water. Take along a snack to replenish your energy.

Stay well hydrated to keep up your circulation.

Avoid drinking alcohol. Besides affecting your concentration and coordination, it causes your blood vessels to dilate which increases your heat loss. You feel warm but your temperature is actually dropping.

Always wear a life jacket when in a boat, canoe or kayak.

What if you fall in the water? Don't panic. Air trapped in clothing can help you remain buoyant and provide insulation. Get out of the water as soon as possible. Try to get back in your vessel or turn it over and get up on the hull. If you can't get to shore or back on your vessel, don't swim. Swimming or treading water can increase heat loss and shorten survival. Draw your knees up to your body, keep your arms tight to your side and make your body as compact as possible, keeping your head out of the water. If two or more people are in the water, huddle together to conserve warmth. Always wear your PFD. Winter is a great time for fly-fishing in Florida. Some fish tolerate 50-degree water much better than we do. Don't let hypothermia ruin your day.

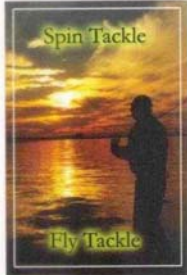
For more information go to:

www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg5214/pfdselection.asp#coldwatersurviv

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/hypothermia.asp>

<http://www.floridaadventuring.com/hypothermia.html>

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NEW: Website recommendation from Ken Doty: tides4fishing.com

More favorite fly fisher websites...

Suncoastflyfishers.com

www.floridawildlifemagazine.com

FloridaSportsman.com

Fishermanscoast.com

FlyFishinSalt.com

SaltwaterSportsman.com

AnglingTrade.com

CaptPat.com

Earthnc.com/online-nautical-charts

SaltwaterTides.com

[Animated Knots by Grog](#)

[Members, got a good fishing website you want to share with other Suncoast Fly Fishers?](#)

[Email Bill AuCoin, \[wmaucoin@verizon.net\]\(mailto:wmaucoin@verizon.net\)](mailto:wmaucoin@verizon.net)

Our Favorite Guides

Capt. Ray Markham, Sarasota/Tampa Bay
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

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Capt. Nick Angelo, Tampa Bay 813-230-8473

Capt. Dan Bumgarner, Tampa Bay 727-526-7565

Capt. Bryon Chamberlin, Tampa Bay 813-361-8801

Capt. Craig Crumbliss, Central Florida
freshwater, 863-232-9710

Capt. Dave Chouinard, Tampa Bay 732-610-9700

Capt. Dayle Mazzarella, Tampa Bay -
Colorado, 760-703-0118

Capt. Pat Damico, Tampa Bay 727-360-6466

Capt. Dave Dant, Tampa Bay 727-744-9039

Steve Gibson, Sarasota Bay area 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

Fly Over

Bill AuCoin: Our Sport Once Over Lightly

Mullet on a fly: chum with beer batter (Florida Sportsman)

Way back in 2002 Florida Sportsman published this terrific Steve Kantner article about how to catch mullet on a fly. The article is now online. Here's the deal. You chum with oatmeal, bread and batter mix – All right, I admit it; I used the word *beer* in the header just to get your attention – and then you work the special fly described in the article. Which fly? Well, read the article.



Bill AuCoin, Editor, On The Fly

Ten reasons to fly fish and not hunt deer (Field and Stream)

Did you ever wonder if you should have been a deer hunter and not a fly fisher? Well, wonder no longer. Kirk Deeter has weighed in at Field & Stream online with ten reasons to fly fish and not hunt deer.

Here's one: "I'd rather match wits with something that has a brain the size of an almond." For the other nine, go here.

Ooops. better make that 11 reasons (Outdoor Hub)

Two deer hunters in Texas saw a deer in the front yard. They moved closer to get a better look. The deer charged them. They retreated to their pickup truck but failed to close the door. The deer kept after them and finally got what he was looking for, a pack of Marlboro cigarettes. Of course they called the cops. With cigs at \$7 a pack, this was like grand theft auto.

Scott's new fly rod for women prompts metaphysical questions (Fly Fisherman)

The new A4W from Scott has a modified wells grip shaped to fit a *woman's* hand. But, out on the water, just casting and thinking, I'm wondering does the world really need a fly rod just for women? Well, of course; yes, you see, because generally speaking women have smaller hands. Well, then maybe Scott should rename its A4 series the A4M series and promote the grips shaped for big male hands. Now everybody's happy? Not necessarily. If you're a man with small hands will you buy the A4W rod? If you're a woman with big hands will you buy the A4M? These are important questions. And here's another: if a man is all alone in his boat, just casting and thinking, and he's talking to himself, and there are no women around, is he still wrong?

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