

# On The Fly

September 2014 Volume 24, Issue 9



Alan Sewell landed a 38-inch snook on a dock light the night of the July outing. It attacked one of his favorites, a Sili Leg Shrimp. Twice. Read his blow-by-blow on page 10. David Putnam caught several big snook on the beach. Of course, he's not saying which beach. Page 13



So Andy Constantinou escaped Florida's summer heat and went fishing in England...for carp. Carp fishing is a big deal there, and we Yanks are going to school on this subject. Like, can you tie a Dog Biscuit Fly? Page 12



Tom Gadacz escaped to Livingston, MT for the annual IFFF Fair and he squeezed in a couple of fishing expeditions with his son and Dayle Mazzarella. Page 14

## Also in this issue of On The Fly

NEWSLETTER OF THE SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

### On The Fly

September 2014 Volume 24, Issue 9

- News 'n' Notes 2
- Member letter: email Opt-in? 3
- Alan Sewell: Review-Previews 7
- Woody Miller: Social Media Now 8
- Colantonio: IRL is in trouble 9
- Alan Sewell: My 38-inch snook 10
- Hofmeister + Truk -- Docklights! 11
- Constantinou: Carp on the fly 12
- David Putnam: Beach snook 13
- Tom Gadacz: IFFF Fair in MT 14
- Tom Gadacz: Fly Fishing Expo 16
- Tom Gadacz: Future Fly Fishers 17
- Pat Damico: Casting Clinic 18
- Mazzarella: Grass Drill #6 19
- Bob Morrison: How - To 20
- Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover 23

---

## News 'n' Notes

**Can you say Chassahowitzka?** -- Be sure to attend the meeting (Thursday, September 18). Our tried and true friend Jim Swann of Jim Swann's Fly Shop in Dade City is our fly tier and presenter and he will talk about how to fish this river. Perfect timing for our Saturday outing. (See Alan's Review's and Previews on page 7).

**And speaking of that river with the long name--** Myron Hansen's Fly Box Exchange program at Thursday's meeting will feature a Chassahowitzka River minnow. Alan said he would donate some flies for new member packets. Others may wish to do so as well.

### Florida Fly Fishing Expo-- October 10-11, 2014

Plantation on Crystal River. Florida Fly Fishing Expo -- World renowned fly fishing experts Bob Clouser of Pennsylvania and Wanda Taylor of Georgia will be special guest instructors at the Florida Fly Fishing Expo Oct. 10-11, 2014 Expo at *Plantation on Crystal River*. Visit the IFFF-FL website [www.fff-florida.org](http://www.fff-florida.org) for information and to pre-register online.

**HOG ROAST 2015:** Save the date -- February 28 at the Treasure Island Conference Center. Karen and Rick Warfel will co-chair. Ken Hofmeister will head up the bucket raffle committee. Alan will arrange the food/caterer.

**Remember Skip Mackey?** He was "The Voice of NASA" and an avid fly fisher who loved to teach kids how to fish. In his honor the Florida Council has established the Skip Mackey Youth Award which will go to a person aged 14-18 who, if accepted, will join 11 others at an expenses paid fly 2015 fishing expedition at the Bighorn Youth Fly Fishing Camp in Fort Smith, Montana. The Florida Council Award will help fund transportation. Info at [www.bighornriveralliance.org](http://www.bighornriveralliance.org). Annie Hays of the Suncoast Fly Fishers attended two years ago and loved it. Thanks go to the Backcountry Fly Fishing Association of Brevard for contributing \$1000 to initiate this program. (Tom Gadacz)

**Okay -- if you're not fishing the Chassahowitzka outing--** Member Robert Fischer is passing the word about CCA Florida's Tampa Chapter *Digital Photo All-Release Challenge* sponsored by T. A. Mahoney Co. Registration and Captain's Dinner is Friday, September 19, at Tampa Bay Watch. Fishing is Saturday, September 20, with check-in at Tampa Bay Watch Marine Center by 4 pm.

**Dock light Team Tournament** -- Flint Creek Outfitters is organizing a dock light team tournament on September 27 starting with a captain's meeting at 6 pm at the store at 1502 Westshore Blvd. Weigh-in is at noon on September 28 at the store.

The Florida Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers  
Presents  
Florida's 2014  
**Fly Fishing Expo**  
Featuring  
Bob Clouser & Wanda Taylor

The Plantation on Crystal River  
Friday & Saturday, Oct. 10 & 11, 2014

- See The Latest Fly Tackle & Gear
- Clinics & Workshops with IFFF Certified Casting Instructors
- Fly Tying Demos & Workshops w/ Top Professional Fly Tyers
- Daily Free Programs & Seminars w/ National Fly Fishing Experts & World Class Speakers
- Raffles, Silent Auctions, Live Auctions & Much More. Join Us.

[www.fff-florida.org](http://www.fff-florida.org)

---

## ***Open Letter to Members***

### **Let members share their email addresses**

Why are email addresses missing from the membership list?

Years ago the Board encouraged the many retired members to get together and fish during the week. During that period, the phone was the normal means of communication. Now that most people have internet service, having members' email addresses would allow folks to more easily communicate by attaching maps and trading pictures of their catches.

In the past, when some board members were approached about including email addresses with the membership list, the response was, "Someone might use the list for commercial purposes." During my twenty years with the club there has, indeed, been one such abuse of the membership list when I received unwanted email and that was from the gentleman who convinced the club to affiliate with FFF. He obtained our email addresses and sent messages promoting his costly fly casting classes. Unwanted emails are easily handled by use of filters or spam file.

September is the month when we renew our club memberships. The membership form has stated, "If you do not desire this information disclosed (name, address and phone number) to members, please so indicate. Your email address is not given to other members."

I believe the membership form should be changed to allow a member the *option* of having his or her email address listed. We have the best fishing club in the area mainly because it is a social club.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ted Rich*

### **Reply from SFF President Kirk Burton**

In addition to all of the great features you have come to expect in the newsletter, this month we have included an open letter from one of our members. Ted brings up a great point in his letter concerning communication among members. People join SFF for different reasons but chief among them is a desire to share experiences and learn from other fly fishers. The board has been discussing the issues surrounding ethical and responsible use of members e-mail and will communicate a decision in the near future.

I also want to let you know that the strategic planning committee led by Tom Trukenbrod is working hard to review what we are doing as a club and how we can continue to support the needs of the membership and our vision.

*SFF VISION: To be Florida's leading fly-fishing club, helping members have more fun fly-casting, fly-fishing, and fly-tying. We strive to gain new knowledge and/or skill at every meeting and event.*

*Kirk*

## **Renew your membership in Suncoast Fly Fishers**

SFF membership renewals for the 2014 – 2015 period are due in September. If you joined in the three months prior to September 2013 (June, July or August) or if you have already paid for 2014 – 2015 then you do not need to renew. Those wanting to renew early should see Karen Warfel at the September meeting. Or, fill out the form on page 5 and send it in with your check today.

There are many benefits of membership in SFF which are emphasized as follows:

- Each month you will receive the highly acclaimed SFF newsletter, *On the Fly*.
- We have monthly (except for December) membership meetings with informative programs about fly fishing and related topics.
- We have monthly outings which include lunch and they are held at great fresh and saltwater venues like Ft. De Soto Park, Walsingham Park, Pinellas Point, Skyway Bridge I-275 Rest Area and Hillsborough River. We have extra trips to the Everglades and St. Johns River. And there are special events such as the Trash and Treasures Auction and additional bargains at the Annual Hog Roast and Silent Auction.
- You have access to fly casting instruction before some of the membership meetings and well organized casting clinics staffed by IFFF certified casting instructors, some of whom are certified master fly casting instructors.
- Like to tie flies? Then watch some of the best tie their favorite flies before most membership meetings in addition to participating in periodic fly tying workshops. Also participate in bimonthly fly box exchanges organized by Myron Hansen.
- Interested in outreach programs? Then join in with the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF) at the Bay Pines Veterans Administration Medical Center and help our service men and women tie flies, build rods and go fly fishing. Talk to Terry Kirkpatrick and John Craig about the details. Our members also teach young people to tie flies at Marine Quest, the open house held in the fall at the big Florida Fish and Wildlife Research complex in downtown St. Pete.
- We are in our second year of participating in a program with summer youth fishing camps. SFF members are teaching fly casting to a number of youths nine to 14 years old.

### **More reasons, from our own Tom Gadacz, president of the Florida Council of the IFFF:**

We in Florida have spearheaded three major conservation movements to hopefully secure a health fishery for ourselves and our kids.

All these have the support of IFFF and the influence of 13,000 national members.

1. Testimony to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission supporting gamefish status for tarpon and bonefish.
2. Written support requesting the Florida State Legislature make regulatory changes to conform with the tarpon-bonefish gamefish designation.
3. Written support that specific data requirements be included in the policies for the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy.

**All of the above and much more for only \$15 a year!** Renew at the meeting or send a check for \$15 (individual membership) or \$25 (family membership) and the membership renewal form on the next page of this issue.



## SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address\* \_\_\_\_\_ City\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ State\* \_\_\_\_\_ Zip\* \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone\* (\_\_\_\_)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) for new and renewing members. Membership categories (select one):

- \_\_\_\_ Regular Membership 1 year - \$15
  - \_\_\_\_ **Family Membership 1 year (includes Member, Spouse and children under 18) - \$25**
  - \_\_\_\_ **Business Membership 1 year (includes monthly business card newsletter ad) - \$100**
- If a current member of FFF, enter your FFF number \_\_\_\_\_.

**Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF).** This is only for new members and is in addition to SFF membership. If you are a current member of FFF, please enter your FFF number (above). SFF is a charter club of FFF, and membership in SFF requires membership in FFF. Current members pay annual dues directly to FFF. Select one category only if a new member:

- \_\_\_\_ Individual 1 year - \$35
- \_\_\_\_ Individual 3 years - \$85
- \_\_\_\_ Family 1 year - \$45
- \_\_\_\_ Family 3 years - \$100
- \_\_\_\_ Senior (age 65 or over; provide date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ 1 year - \$25
- \_\_\_\_ Youth (under 18; provide date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ 1 year - \$15

Total amount due \$\_\_\_\_\_. Please make check payable to **Suncoast Fly Fishers** and bring it along with completed application to next meeting or mail to:

**Suncoast Fly Fishers**  
**P.O. Box 40821**  
**St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821**

Amount received \$\_\_\_\_\_. Date received \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_. SFF Treasurer

**\*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. Your e-mail address is not given to other members. The monthly newsletter, "On the Fly," is only distributed electronically. If you do not provide an e-mail address, you can obtain the newsletter from our web site.**

**(<http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com>)**

# ***We are Suncoast Fly Fishers***

## **Suncoast Fly Fishers**

P. O. Box 40821  
St Petersburg, FL 33743-0821  
www.suncoastflyfishers.org

### **Club Officers**

Pres: Kirk Burton, 727-631-3033  
Vice Pres: Tom Trukenbrod  
Sec: Ken Hofmeister, 727-521-1637  
Treas: Karen Warfel

### **Board of Directors**

Dick Miekka - Dan Bumgarner - John  
Craig - Alan Sewell - George  
Haseltine-David Putnam. Pat Damico.

### **Committees**

Volunteers welcome. Please speak to  
any director.  
Casting Skills -- Pat Damico, MCI;  
Dayle Mazzarella, MCI  
IFFF Liaison - Pat Damico  
Fly Tying -- Myron Hansen  
Membership -- Karen Warfel  
Webmaster - Dick Miekka  
Hog Roast 2015- OPEN  
Club Outings and Lunches -- Alan  
Sewell, Richard Oldenski, Mark Hays  
Project Healing Waters -- John Craig,  
Terry Kirkpatrick  
Raffles -- Dave Barson  
Programs -- Board of directors  
Newsletter, publicity -- Bill AuCoin

## ***Aims and Purposes***

*Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) is a non-profit 501(C) 3 organization and a charter member of the International Federation of Fly fishers.*

*Suncoast Fly Fishers are dedicated to sharing their total fly fishing experiences and to developing interest in fly fishing in both fresh and salt water. We 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 help members become more skilled, have more fun, and be more productive in the sport. SFF supports the conservation of natural resources, boating safety and fishing regulations.*

**Monthly Meetings** are the third Thursday of each month except December from 6 to 8 pm, Walter Fuller Park Recreation Center, 7981 26th Ave N., St. Pete



**<http://suncoastflyfishers.com/meetings.html>**

The Suncoast Fly Fishers, Inc. (SFF) is an organization of fishing enthusiasts who love fishing with the fly rod. We welcome all people of all ages with similar interests; regardless of their fly fishing skill level. We enthusiastically teach those that wish to learn or improve their fly casting, fly tying and related fly fishing skills. SFF meets monthly where we talk fly fishing, tie flies and most months feature a speaker with a program highlighting local fly fishing opportunities. SFF is a non-profit, 501(C)3 organization.

SFF is a charter member of the [International Federation of Fly Fishers \(IFFF\)](#). SFF is a member of the [Florida Council of IFFF](#)

**Contact Us: By U.S. mail:** Suncoast Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 40821, St Petersburg, FL 33743-0821



## Alan Sewell's Club Outing Reviews & Previews

### *August 23, 2014 - Sunshine Skyway Area*



This outing had everything going our way--beautiful weather, calm seas, no wind, lots of SFF anglers eating, fishing and having a fun-filled morning. The only thing missing was the largest trout to win the prize. The trout that were caught must have been too small to measure. Anyway, a good time had by all. I even landed a mullet that had the fly on the outside of its mouth. This fish put me on the reel to land it. Quite a fight.

### *September 20, 2014 - Chassahowitzka River*

This outing has always been one of our favorite trips. We will be fishing on the spring side of the river. The Chas is spring-fed river for the first three miles until it reaches the Gulf and turns into vast, shallow marshes. Five miles offshore it will be five feet deep. This is one outing all members should try to attend. The view is outstanding on the river, which has many side tributaries leading off to springs. We will be fishing for the largest sunfish and largest bass in this crystal clear water.

Kayaks are for rent at \$20 a day. Canoes are \$16 a day, and Johnboats are \$35 a day without a motor. Members that have extra kayaks will hopefully loan them to members who need them. I have two extra kayaks that I will be trailering to the river. Anyone that needs one of these should call me at 470-4570, to reserve one. The rental kayaks or boats are on a first come basis. We will be eating lunch at the store around 12:30. It cost \$5.00 to park, or \$7.00 if you have a trailer. More at our September meeting.

**October 18, 2014 - Carl Hanson Tournament**

**November 2014 - Saltwater Fishing**

**December 2014 - Don Coleman Memorial and Chili (belly busting) Event**

## 2014 - 2015 Outing Tournament Catches

**Largest Bass - Karen Warfel - 14-inches**  
**Largest Sunfish- Annie Hays - 8-inches**  
**Largest Ladyfish - David Putnam - 21-1/2 inches**  
**Largest Snook -- Alan Sewell -- 38 inches**  
Largest Speckled Trout-Open  
Largest Redfish-Open  
**Largest fish of other species - Adam Hays. Peacock Bass**

**Note: All fish entered in the yearly contest must be caught at a club outing, in the zone defined, and must be at least the legal size set by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission**

*Alan*



## Woody Miller: Social media is where we need to be



In today's world, information sharing is as common as brushing your teeth or eating. Statistics show that if you are not using social media to reach your audience, you're going to lose the all-important new face that will continue to support your cause your club or your business.

All you have to do today to see how infused the world has become with social media is to search Facebook pages for any organization, business or government agency. Social media is where everyone shares the information that we as users go to gain our knowledge of the important or not so important.

When was the last time you went to the library to search for information, or for that fact check out a book to read? If you are of the era prior to the baby boomers then maybe your answer will be somewhat different than those of the newer generations, but for those of us who have embraced the internet age either by desire or by necessity, we are a product of our peers who share information worldwide on any subject you wish to delve into.

To reach those who will carry the club in the coming years, we must get our message out there. Social media is the easiest and most effective means to reach our target audience. The young generation shares massive amounts of information daily about their experiences and their interests. Being able to tap into this information sharing through the likes of Facebook as well as the numerous other social media outlets is tantamount to our growth.

I started a Facebook page for the Suncoast Fly Fishers a couple of years ago and the link was on the front page of the website. Very few members accessed the page and fewer yet posted anything. Sharing photos, fishing reports as well as the information that we find during our daily travels around the Internet will attract attention and bring many new faces to the site. From there, hopefully some will appear in person at club meetings, and other club outings.

Promotion of not only the club website but also the Facebook page, at every event we attend or sponsor, will help promote this club which in turn will promote this sport and the values it instills on each and every one of us.

Check us out by clicking on the Facebook link on the front page of the website. If you are new to Facebook or social media in general, there are many websites with information which will get you on your way to being a part of the vast area we know as the Internet.

A few statistics for you;

- 829 million daily active users
- 98% of the age 18-25 population use social media
- 22% of teenagers log on to Facebook an average of 10 times a day

Pretty impressive numbers I have to say.

*Woody*





## Nick Colantonio: Indian River Lagoon Needs Help



*Nick Colantonio, a member of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club, told us about the Dec. 2013 IRL adventure at the August meeting. There's room in the bow for the 2014 expedition in December.*

Less than a year ago Nick Colantonio packed his Grumman to the gunwales and paddled from the top of the Indian River Lagoon at New Smyrna Beach to the bottom at Jupiter. Whew.

That's 19 days of paddling more than 150 miles on the map but many more miles than that in a canoe whipped off course by wind's whims. It's an excruciatingly long way for of a single paddler of a certain age in a canoe with a month's worth of camping gear, coolers and grill, including a 20-gallon propane tank.

He joined about a dozen others on this

December 2013 IRL Paddle Adventure. Now, with images and I've-been-there experience they are telling potential allies that the IRL is still beautiful but it's in trouble. Colantonio asked for Suncoast Fly Fishers to join the effort to rescue the IRL from environmental woes that have gotten much worse just in the last two years.



*The core group of paddlers included (L-r) John Kumiski, Mike Conneen, Rodney Smith (our February meeting speaker), Darryl (Bones) Benton and Nick Colantonio.*

Manatees and resident populations of 300 dolphins are dying off.

Water quality is awful. Rapid population increases and polluted water runoff have led to huge blooms of algae. Blooms and dirty water have destroyed mile after square miles of seagrass, The IRL is hurting like Tampa Bay on Florida's west coast was hurting back in the 1970s and 1980s. Nick said the organization in **the best position to lead the renewal is the Marine Resources Council** with ten scientists and more than 800 citizen volunteers.

## **Alan Sewell: 38-inch dock light snook**

*Here's Alan's blow-by-blow on that huge July dock light snook*

This is a recap of our July night fishing outing. The weather was perfect. No wind, smooth seas, fair tide movement. It was the best night to fish from the beaches, passes or bridges, boats, or even kayaks.

Many fish were caught, including snook, trout, redfish, ladyfish and catfish. Yes, catfish will hit a fly around the dock lights. They fight hard, but then you have to release them. Anyway, this is about snook, and I can tell the story, because the snook that I caught was the largest snook ever caught in our outings, and also the largest fish ever entered in our yearly tournaments.

Truk was my partner and we guessed the snook to be 38-inches. I only had a 36-inch ruler, and the fish was many inches longer but we settled on 38-inches just to get the fish back in the water alive. I normally fish dock lights by first watching for movement, like shrimp jumping, minnows scattering, fish feeding. Since you can see the fish in the lights, I usually call this sight fishing. If I don't see any of these signs, I move to the next light. Now for the story. I always like to warm-up at a dock, just to get my distance memorized, and to show my partner how we are going to fish the rest of the night.

Within five minutes of launching my boat, I stopped at the first light to practice. This was a big dock with boats hanging and outside poles maybe 20 feet from the end. My fly was my Sili-Leg Shrimp pattern in white, tied on my favorite hook, a Mustad C71SSS, #1. This is a circle streamer hook, which is 2XH/1XL.

I did not see a fish on this dock because this was for practice, remember. The first practice cast I made was slammed by a heavy fish, which I missed because I raised my rod and the circle hook did not set. Since I figured out that there was a fish there I cast again and the same fish slammed it again. I pulled back on the line so the hook would set and the water erupted with the snook jumping clear out of the water.

I was between the dock and the outside poles and I could not even pull the fish out with the trolling motor. I tried three times to move the fish outside, but it kept turning back to the dock. My hand was burned several times with the line rushing across my fingers. I will say that this was an epic battle.

Every time I got the fish to the boat, it swam back under the dock. I was using a 30-lb base furled leader with 40-lb tippet, so I knew that the leader was strong enough to pull. I was using a rod that was made for this purpose, a Redington *Predator* 10 wt that is 7' 8" and made to throw big flies and pull fish out of lily pads, mangroves or pilings. This style of rods is made in 8-, 9-, or 10-wt. Sage has the *BASS II*, White River has the *Heat*, and Temple Fork Outfitter has *Hawgleg*.

Now back to the fish. It was proven that night that a 40-inch fish will not fit in a 30-inch net. I could not land the fish and keep pressure on it. I dragged the fish to Truk and he was able to lift it aboard to measure it so we could get it back in the water, alive. The fish was weak, but it did swim away, which was better than the catch. Thanks, Truk.

Now 30 minutes have gone by since I launched the boat, and I wanted to quit fishing. But we did keep fishing and caught trout, redfish and ladyfish the rest of the night. I did have to change the leader because the 40-lb tippet was almost worn through. *Alan*

## Hofmeister-Trukenbrod: More dock light magic



*Tom Trukenbrod (right) caught this nice in-the-slot redfish on the docklights while fishing with Ken Hofmeister. Hofmeister caught a 26-inch snook (above) on a Jurassic-eyed Bristle Bomber that he tied. Want to tie that Bristle Bomber? Go to the SFF website and click on the October 2011 issue. Scroll down to The Tying Bench page for Ken's instructions.*



*Bluefish, too -- (right) Ken has been doing a number on Tampa Bay bluefish, too.*



## Andy Constantinou: Carp Secrets from England

**Something a little different, writes Andy. Yep!**

Andy Constantinou goes to England to escape Florida's summer heat. But he doesn't stop fishing. Carp is on the menu, so to speak. He and his friend John drive about an hour to Manor Farm Fishery near Biggleswade and pay £10 a day to fish there and it is strictly catch and release. (So, just to be clear, carp are actually not on the menu.)



*Andy Constantinou with a carp caught on a fly tied to resemble a dog food pellet or, as Andy calls it, a "dog biscuit." On an 8-weight.*



The specially designed catapult is used to get the dog biscuits within casting distance of the fish. When they start to eat the pellets the fly is cast amongst them. In hot weather the carp cruise near the surface so it's like sight fishing.

After the fish takes the fly it's advisable to wait for the line to run before lifting the rod, otherwise the fly is pulled out of the fish's mouth and you lose the fish.



I was wondering if this method would work with tilapia and mullet. I plan to give it a try when I return to Florida in September.



*Andy*



## David Putnam: Snook on the Beach



*That's Putnam's buddy Sam holding Putnam's beach snook, one of many caught in a daylight-to-noonish outing.*

Sam scooped my big one out of the surf for me. He couldn't operate the camera, and I was stuck with this one of him holding my biggest, estimated by him at 22 lbs, which means that if it had been his fish the estimate would have been higher. My first guess was 25 lbs, but I'm not that good at estimates.

Anyway, one nice fly rod fish. 9 wt, Clouser-style white fly with green back, tied on size 2 hook.

I got there at 6 am, took a ten-minute break at around ten, and then went back to battle. I came in, finally, exhausted.

I landed six snook on the fly. Weights: 18, 15, 15, 13, 14 and 6 lbs. Lost a few others, naturally. My buddy got one around 28-

30 lbs. Wildest ever. *David*

## Layne (Smitty) Smith: One Large Gummy Minnow fly

A couple of months ago, I was having a discussion with Tom Jones about his Gummy Minnow flies. It intrigued me to the point of giving it a try on the vise.

Well you know me. I couldn't leave well enough alone. So I have tied it in a LARGER version. Let me know how it works for you on the water. You'll need your heaviest fly rod to throw it.

*Smitty*



## Tom Gadacz: Report from the IFFF Fair 2014

*Tom writes, "It's always the people you meet that make the difference."*

Livingston, Montana, the headquarters of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, was the site for the 49<sup>th</sup> Fair on August 7-9. The IFFF museum was open for touring and contained a display of a variety of items of early fly fishing gear, classic flies tied by past and current master fly tiers, and many paintings. The activities were mainly held in Park High School.

The business and special interest group meetings were held early in the week. The 90 plus sessions consisted of a great variety of sessions and demonstrations on fly casting and tying.

There were many instructional sessions as well and a few on the water trips on the Yellowstone and Gallatin Rivers. Opportunities to fish the famed Livingston spring creeks of DePuy and Armstrong's were also available.

The Fair was a great opportunity to get acquainted with a wide variety of famous and some not so famous but excellent fly fishers. It had an international component with Soon Lee teaching a group of Japanese youngsters fly casting. The social activities held at Music Ranch or Civic Center included the Awards Banquet, Live Auction and the BBQ.

Congratulation to Oscar Feliu who received the award for excellence in fly tying and to Ron Winn and Jack Neely who received the Florida Council Award.

Several Floridians including Tom Logan, Dayle Mazzarella, Pat Damico, Pete Greenan, Leslie Holmes, Ron Winn, and Rick Grasset contributed fly fishing trips or had programs at the Fair.



**Florida's Oscar Feliu (in blue shirt) awarded the Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award.** That's IFFF President Phil Greenlee (l) and Tom Logan (r) of the Florida Council. Who was Buz Buszek? Be sure to read [this interesting article](#).

*>Continued on next page.*



## Continued...Tom Gadacz' report from the IFFF Fair

I attended the Casting Instructor Preparation Clinic organized by Dayle Mazzarella along with Molly Semenik, Don Simonson, Dave Barron, and Steve Hollensed. It was a great 4-hour condensed session of a standard 8-hour course.



*Master Casting Instructor Dayle Mazzarella, a member of Suncoast Fly Fishers, helped organize and staff the Casting Instructor Preparation Clinic*

Thursday morning and Friday afternoon were my days to help staff the Membership & Merchandise booth. There was plenty time to attend several of the free sessions and make some new fly fishing friends. It was amazing how helpful many of the experts were by sharing their knowledge and experience in fly fishing. This is what makes our sport so enjoyable and exciting.

It's always the people you meet that make the difference.

I had a great time getting in some fishing and lots of catching. Caught a few nice rainbows and browns in Livingston on the Yellowstone and several cutthroats and white fish on Boulder River.

The IFFF Fly Fishing Fair was a great event and if you get a chance, attend the Fair next year in Bend, Oregon August 11-14.

### *Tom*

Tom Gadacz  
President, Florida Council IFFF



*Tom Gadacz with a Bonneville cutthroat*



*The best fishing was before the Fair when I fished with my son Nicholas and Dayle Mazzarella on Ham's Fork and Smith Fork. We enjoyed some terrific catches of Bonneville cutthroats and leaping rainbows.*

# Gadacz: Florida Fly Expo -- Crystal River -- Oct. 10-11

## My fellow members of the Suncoast Fly Fishers

Come join fly fishers from Florida and the Southeast for the **2014 IFFF-Florida Fly Fishing Expo** in scenic Crystal River on Fri. & Sat., Oct 10 and 11, 2014.

This year the non-profit Florida Council of the IFFF-FL is celebrating the fifth anniversary of Florida's **biggest fly-fishing-only exposition** by featuring the world renowned fly fishers **Bob Clouser and Wanda Taylor**.

In addition to our special guests, the 2014 Fly Fishing Expo offers **50 free programs**, classes, clinics, and workshops from the state and region's most talented guides, casting instructors, fly tiers, and others – **all for a \$10 fee**, for two full days. And kids 16 and younger get in free.

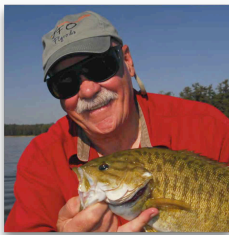
### FREE CLINICS AND PROGRAMS, INCLUDING:

**Casting** – Dealing With Wind; Making Functional Curve Casts and Mends; Single Hand Spey Casting; Supercharge Your Distance Casts, Roll Casts; and, new this year, **The Casting Rx Tune-up Tent**, where you can have your cast 'tuned-up' by certified fly casting instructors for free.

**Fly Tying** – Tying Tarpon Flies; Fly Tying for Children; Furs, Feathers, and New Materials – Everything You Need to Know, and more.

The Florida Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers  
presents

## Florida's 2014 FLY FISHING EXPO featuring Bob Clouser & Wanda Taylor



at **Plantation** on Crystal River  
Friday & Saturday, Oct. 10 & 11, 2014

- See the latest fly tackle & gear
- Clinics & workshops with IFFF certified casting instructors
- Fly tying demos & workshops with the southeast's top fly tiers
- Programs for Women & Kids
- Free programs & seminars
- Fri. reception & Sat. banquet
- Raffles, silent auctions, live auctions & much more. Join us!

For more information go to [www.fff-florida.org](http://www.fff-florida.org)

Also, dozens of programs from Florida's **most respected fishing guides and charter captains**; and outdoor photography classes, how to build first-aid kits, tying effective new fly patterns, Florida's precious springs, and resource-awareness exhibits. Indoor and outdoor displays of the newest fly rods, reels, lines, clothing, kayaks, and other gear.

Last year we had over 500 visitors. We have a lively, growing, family-fun fly fishing expo in a truly stunning setting.

Visit our website <http://fff-florida.org>

*Tom*

Tom Gadacz  
President, Florida Council IFFF

## Tom Gadacz: Teaching tomorrow's fly fishers today

**Where:** E. G. Simmons Fishing Camp, Ruskin, Florida

**When:** June 23, July 1, July 18, and August 4, 2014

**Students:** 36 youths 9-11 years old first session, 40 youths 12-15 year old second session, 40 youths 9-11 years old the third session, and 36 older youths the fourth session. Total of 152 youths.

**Instructors:** Suncoast Fly Fishers members: Rick Warfel, Ken Hofmeister, Don Manning, Bob Morrison, Tom Trukenbrod, Tom Gadacz, and Alan Sewell



### Comments:

Dave Ramirez, Camp Director and his staff organized the kids and helped with managing the group. The kids had plenty of energy and several had some experience with fly casting. We had many more girls this year than we had last year. We demonstrated casting but most of the time they were casting. The workouts with the PCV pipe and paint brush drills stressed casting form. It was a good transition from the pipes and paint brushes to the short Form rods. The 8'6" rods were good size for even the shortest kid. Even though we shortened the leader to 4' there were many "wind knots" even in the fly line. Most of them could hit the targets and modified their cast to increase the chances of hitting the target. The older group showed a greater interest in fly casting and several remained after the session for additional casting. Many had questions about fly fishing and sources for fly fishing equipment. We had great fun and a very rewarding experience sharing our fly fishing enthusiasm so much so that we hardly felt the 90 degree sun. Splashing each other during the water and paint brush drill also helped. The last session had several of the older youths who had been to last year's sessions or the one we had earlier this year and they showed remarkable casting skills. Each youth received a SFF Junior Training Clinic for Fly Casting Certificate.



*SFF member Rick Warfel and students*

**Special Thanks:** This activity was supported by a grant from Fish Florida and thanks to Russ Miller and Far Banks Enterprises for helping with the acquisition of casting equipment. Thanks to Dayle Mazzarella for helping develop the casting curriculum and the SFF members who volunteered to help with these sessions.

*Tom*

Tom Gadacz  
Member, Suncoast Fly Fishers  
President, Florida Council IFFF

## Capt. Pat Damico: Fly Casting Clinic. Tip # 56



*By Capt. Pat Damico, Master Casting Instructor*

### **Follow the reel with your line hand**

A frequent problem with some long time fly fishers is that while false casting and especially when making a final delivery of the fly, the line ends up behind the reel seat. Bending the wrist while casting creates a large opening between the wrist and reel seat. Having the line hand low and against your body places the line in this opening. Following the reel with your line hand especially on the backcast will eliminate this problem and immediately improve your casting by also getting rid of slack line between your stripping guide and line hand. Remember, slack in any cast is detrimental.

*Pat Damico, St. Pete Beach*

### **A Salute to Suncoast Fly Fisher Guides and Casting Instructors**

Nick Angelo	813-230-8473	<a href="http://shallowwaterflyfishing.com/">http://shallowwaterflyfishing.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Dan Bumgarner	727-526-7565	<a href="http://www.tampabaycharterfishing.com/">http://www.tampabaycharterfishing.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Bryon Chamberlin	813-361-8801	<a href="http://barbedsteel.com/">http://barbedsteel.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Dave Chouinard	732-610-9700	<a href="http://www.chouinardoutdoor.com/">http://www.chouinardoutdoor.com/</a>	Palm Harbor
Pat Damico	727-360-8466	<a href="http://captpat.com/">http://captpat.com/</a>	St. Petersburg
Dave Dant	727-744-9039	<a href="http://sightfishtarpon.blogspot.com/">http://sightfishtarpon.blogspot.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Steve Gibson	941-284-3406	<a href="http://www.kayakfishingsarasota.com/">http://www.kayakfishingsarasota.com/</a>	Sarasota Bay
Rick Grasset	941-923-7799	<a href="http://www.snookfin-addict.com/">http://www.snookfin-addict.com/</a>	Sarasota Bay
Pete Greenan	941-232-2960	<a href="http://www.floridaflyfishing.com/">http://www.floridaflyfishing.com/</a>	Boca Grande
Paul Hawkins	727-560-6762	<a href="http://www.flatsguy.com/">http://www.flatsguy.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Ethan Kiburz	727-278-4707	<a href="http://www.tampabaynativefishingcharter.com/">http://www.tampabaynativefishingcharter.com/</a>	Tampa
Ray Markham	941-723-2655	<a href="http://www.captainraymarkham.com/">http://www.captainraymarkham.com/</a>	Sarasota
Tom Reckenwald	727-254-9309	<a href="http://www.tampabaysightfishing.com/">http://www.tampabaysightfishing.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Russ Shirley	727-343-1957	<a href="http://captruss.com/">http://captruss.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Wayne Simmons	727-204-4188	<a href="http://www.captainwaynesimmons.com/">http://www.captainwaynesimmons.com/</a>	Tampa Bay
Jim Swann	352-567-6029	Call – fresh water guide, casting, fly tying	Dade City

#### **Casting Instructors**

Pat Damico	727-360-8466	<a href="http://captpat.com/">http://captpat.com/</a>	St. Petersburg
Dayle Mazzarella	760-703-0118	<a href="http://www.flyfishingwesternwyoming.com/">www.flyfishingwesternwyoming.com/</a>	Tampa Bay, Wyoming
Leigh West	813-971-8697	<a href="mailto:west123@tampabay.rr.com">west123@tampabay.rr.com</a>	Tampa Bay



## Mazzarella: Grass Drill # 6: Roll Cast Drill

*Dayle Mazzarella, Master Casting Instructor*

GOALS: Cast 35ft. off either shoulder.

PRINCIPLES: No slack, straight rod tip path, constant acceleration, arc and stroke match line length.

STEP 1: Strip 35ft. of line off rod.

STEP 2: Place an anchor at 18ft.

STEP 3: Place your yarn in or under the anchor.

STEP 4: Point your rod tip at the anchor and move it to 20 degrees or so to the outside. (Tip down)

STEP 5: With a straight wrist, slowly lift your rod to 12:00. At this point you should have your line coming off the ground about even with your feet or a little behind you. If it is coming off the ground in front of you, move forward. If you still have lots of slack, move back. This is now your starting point. You have created a "D" Loop.

STEP 6: Check your hand and wrist. Hand should be about even with your eyes. Now cock your wrist back a few degrees so your rod is at about 1:30.

STEP 7: Check your alignment with the target. The most efficient cast will be aimed in a straight line slightly to the side of your fly line.

STEP 8 Execute a forward cast. Remember: 1) Constantly apply acceleration. (Recall the wet paint brush practice) 2) Keep your thumb scraping the ceiling. (Straight line rod tip path) 3) Wait to rotate your wrist until the very end of your stroke. 4. STOP at about 10:30 o'clock.

STEP 9: Lower your rod and follow the line down.

### **TROUBLESHOOTING:**

#### 1) Big Open Loop

- a) Caused by too much arc (usually too much wrist) or
- b) Too much power too early in the cast.

SOLUTION: Reduce the arc and concentrate on the paint brush

#### 2) Line Dumps in a Pile

- a) Caused by driving your rod tip too far down before the stop.

SOLUTION: Stop your rod tip higher

- b) Not enough force applied.

SOLUTION: Apply more force, but make sure to apply the acceleration constantly over the length of your cast.

#### 3) Line hits itself

- a) Make sure to drive your rod to the side of your line, never over or across your line.
- b) If the wind is from the side, you need to drive your rod to the downwind side of the line.

STEP 10: Repeat from opposite shoulder.

STEP 11: Want a challenge? Cast into the wind, longer casts, crosswind casts, headwind casts, etc.

## Bob Morrison: How-To



### Artists don't paint with toothpicks

**I'm messin' with your head (cement).** When I apply head cement I sometimes get too much, with a messy result that is difficult to clean up and often makes for a messy fly. Recently I got a tip to trim the cement applicator brush to a point, so that I can apply a smaller amount of cement to a smaller area. This way I can always add a little bit more if I need it, and have a cleaner, neater looking fly as a result.

**Spooky is as spooky does.** Here's a good one. It's not a good idea to cast a lead-eyed weighted fly to a tailing redfish, since the splash of the fly will spook fish in very shallow water. In such a situation the weight of the hook should be enough to get the fly down, and with less noise when it hits the water surface. A small winding of lead wire could also be helpful, and with less noise

**Save your leftovers.** When using Extra Select Craft Fur in fly tying, save the base fabric when all of the fur has been used up. This material can be used to make bodies for crabs, baby flounders, and other patterns. It can also be trimmed and colored to meet requirements.

**Paint like an artist.** When applying Fusion Cement in fly tying, try using a small artist's paintbrush instead of the usual toothpick. Wet the brush before using it to apply the Fusion and you will get a smoother result. The wet brush won't be a problem for the Fusion, which is water-based. Thanks for this one go to Tom Jones.

Go get 'em, and good luck!

*Bob*



# Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers

**Firefly FISHING LODGE & RETREAT, LLC**



- ✓ Rustic lodging at 90-acre mountain, creek & river paradise
- ✓ Guided fly fishing/drift boat packages
- ✓ Customized family tours & activities

1414 Robert Miller Lane Mineral Bluff, GA 30559  
706-374-4489 • fireflylodge@tds.net • fireflyfishinglodge.com

Guy Tillotson  
President  
Phone: (904) 347-3138  
Email: guy@grandslamgroup.com

**GRAND SLAM GROUP, LLC**  
Sales & Marketing  
www.GrandSlamGroup.com

3806 Guilford Rd. #6 Naples, FL 34112

© Paula Cannon 1996

**Flint Creek Outfitters**  
Est. 1965 Florida  
www.FLINTCREEKOUTFITTERS.COM

1502 N. Westshore Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33609  
813 681 1888  
store@flintcreekoutfitters.com

Spin Tackle

**The Fly Guy**

Capt. Pat Damico

2981 E. Vina del Mar Blvd.  
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706  
Tel: 727-360-6466  
Web: http://captpat.com  
Email: flyguy@captpat.com

Fly Tackle

GOODYEAR • TOYO • COOPER • MICHELIN

**BOB LEE'S**  
Since 1947  
TIRE COMPANY

**TODD MURRIAN** 727-822-3981  
www.bobleetire.com  
1631 - 4th STREET NORTH • ST. PETERSBURG, FL. 33704

**FLY FISHING** **Star Valley Outfitters**

- Lessons
- Casting
- Fly Tying
- Fishing Trips

**Dayle Mazzarella**  
(760) 703-0118  
email: emailmazz@yahoo.com




**Metalfab Inc**  
ARCHITECTURAL METAL SPECIALISTS®  
WWW-METAL-FAB INC.COM

Tampa Bay  
**On The Fly**

Fly Fishing and Tying  
Equipment, Instruction, and Adventures

4203 W El Prado Blvd  
Tampa FL 33629  
Phone 813.443.0660  
Fax 813.443.0662

Enver Hysni  
Cell 727.504.4062  
info@tbotf.com www.tampabayonthefly.com

**Put your business card ad in our newsletter. Just \$100 (or auction items) for 12 monthly issues. Contact Karen Warfel, kmwarfel@yahoo.com**

*Tampa Bay Charter Fishing*  
with  
*Capt. Dan Bumgarner*  
aboard  
*"Teacher's Pet"*



Ph. 727-526-7565 Cell 727-422-9163  
USCG Licensed

**Dollar for Dollar**  
Alpen is your Best Optics Buy!

Alpen Optics – Winner of **7 Outdoor Life**  
“Great Buy” Awards. *More than any*  
*other optics company – EVER!*



**877-987-8370**  
**alpenoptics.com**

Call ALPEN, use code word “Fly” to receive FREE keylight & catalog.

## Carbon Marine





Carbon fibers and space-age epoxies create the lightest fishing accessories.  
813-928-9887  
**carbonmarine.com**

**Canoe Outpost-Peace River, Inc.**  
**Beth Alibro**  
Office Manager, Group Coordinator



800-268-0083 or 863-494-1215  
863-494-4391 fax  
2816 NW County Rd. 661  
Areadia, FL 34266  
[www.canoeoutpost.com](http://www.canoeoutpost.com) - [peacepaddler@canoeoutpost.com](mailto:peacepaddler@canoeoutpost.com)



**JIM SWANN'S** 

Complete Fly Fishing Shop  
Rods - Reels - Hand Tied Flies - Guide Service  
Fly Tying Materials  
Classes in Fly Tying and Casting

352-567-6029 13650 S. 98 By Pass  
Dade City, FL 33525



**Bill Jackson Inc.**  
Shop For Adventure

SPECIALISTS IN:  
BACKPACKING  
CAMPING  
FISHING  
GUN SHOP  
IN-LINE SKATING  
KAYAKING  
METAL DETECTING  
SCUBA DIVING  
SNOW SKIING  
STANDUP PADDLE BOARDS

9501 U.S. 19 North, Pinellas Park, FL 33782  
Phone: (727) 576-4169  
[www.billjackson.com](http://www.billjackson.com)




**SaltFlies**  
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

## Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover



**IFTD 2014** -- So I drove over to Orlando in late July to browse the sportfishing's annual dealer show and see what will be on store shelves next year. (I'm a member of the media, doncha know.) It's two shows, actually. ICAST on one side of the hall features traditional tackle. On the other end it's the IFTD -- International Fly Tackle Dealer show -- produced by the American Fly Fishing Tackle Association ([AFFTA](#))

**Congratulations, and thank you.** Cortland is going into its 100th anniversary year. Cortland announced it will donate a percentage of every line sale to Bonefish & Tarpon Trust, Coastal Conservation Association, and Trout Unlimited. Once upon a time (circa 1975) I fished for tarpon in Costa Rica with Cortland's well-known and highly-regarded Leon Chandler, fly-fishing's great ambassador, and he got me interested in fly fishing. Cortland and my company at the time, Johnson Outboards, were co-sponsoring a 16mm film (remember those days?) for fishing clubs.

[www.cortlandline.com](http://www.cortlandline.com)

**ICAST 2014** -- Over in the ICAST section I met Blake Edward who co-founded NuCanoe. I saw his unique vessel on display at the St. Pete Boat Show a couple of years ago and I liked it. IMO, it's the ultimate "hybrid" -- about 1/4 kayak, 1/4 canoe, 1/4 skiff, and 1/4 paddleboard. It won't tip over if you stand up to stretch your sore back. You can even put a little kicker on it if you need to cover a lot of water. I almost didn't recognize the guy standing next to him, one of our special guide-friends, [Steve Gibson of Sarasota](#) who is on the NuCanoe Pro Staff. Steve said he's open to an invitation to speak at one of our future meetings. [www.nucanoe.com](http://www.nucanoe.com)

**Davy and Double-Davy** -- My email of the month came from Capt. Pat Damico who called my attention to the Davy and Double-Davy knots. The Double-Davy is now my go-to knot when I'm wade fishing. It's quick, and easy and it doesn't waste a lot of expensive flourocarbon leader. [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com)

**I heard it on the grapevine** -- Angling Trade magazine had an article saying that G. Loomis was considering eliminating its lifetime warranty for rods. False alarm. One suspects G. Loomis put the idea out there to see what the industry reaction would be. Not good, apparently. [www.anglingtrade.com](http://www.anglingtrade.com)

**Manatees and the rule of 72** -- Manatees are doing very well, thank you. A recent article on *The Fishing Wire* by Frank Sargeant points out that manatee populations are increasing about 10 percent a year and, furthermore, he points out that the rule of 72 states that anything that increases 10 percent a year will double in seven years. So, the question is, do we keep protecting manatees until they've eaten all the seagrass in Tampa Bay. [www.thefishingwire.com](http://www.thefishingwire.com)

*Bill*