

# On The Fly

## Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg

*Promoting fly fishing, fly tying, fly casting and marine conservation in a family fun atmosphere*



Don Coleman Classic and Chili Cook-off at Fort DeSoto Park. Pp 10 - 14



Tampa Bay Times interviews club founders. Explains fly fishing. P15

# On The Fly

January 2017 Volume 27, Issue 1

President George Haseltine	2
Calendar: Meetings & Outings	3
Planning Ahead	4
News 'n' Notes	5
Introduction to Fly Fishing Class March 4	6
Print and complete this new club survey	7
We are Suncoast Fly Fishers	9
Burkard: Don Coleman outing, chili cook-off	10
Trukenbrod: January outing at Pinellas Point	11
2016 Club tournament winners	11
Burkard: How to measure fish at the outings	11
Don Coleman Classic at Fort DeSoto Park	12
Saltwater fly fishing insights by Don Coleman	13
Don Coleman Classic snapshots	14
Rick Warfel: 20-inch seatrout. X marks the spot	14
Tampa Bay Times explains fly fishing	15
Club members visit FWC's redfish breeding ponds	16
Tying Bench: Smitty ties "The Flash" for ladyfish	17
Report: Jim and Marie Shipley fly fish New Zealand	18
David Putnam: Turn those toy legs into flies	19
Tom Gadacz -Pat Damico land snook, jump 'poons	20
Dennis Marquis - Weedon channel macks & blues	20
Bob Morrison: Fly Fishing's Fishy Factoids	21
Capt. Pat Damico: Casting Clinic. Captain's Corner	22
Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover	23
Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers	24++

## ***SFF President Letter – January 2016***



Hello Everyone, I hope you had a good Christmas and will have a healthy and prosperous New Year.

I ordered a new rod for myself from Alan Sewell. Watch out Mayan Cichlids. Ken Hofmeister has our April Everglades trip planning underway. We fellowship with members of other clubs as part of our annual “you catch ‘em ‘n’ clean ‘em and they’ll cook ‘em” lunch.

And our outings committee, Boy! Truk Trukenbrod, John Craig, Bob Burkard, and Dan Bumgarner have a lineup of great outings in some familiar and maybe some not so familiar places, but always with something good to eat: Coffee in the morning, sandwiches, ribs, chili and more. Please join us. The Club pays. A special thank you to those of you who volunteer to provide the lunches.

Dick Miekka, Bob Burkard, and Rick Yarn have done a great job updating our web site. They’ve added a calendar that will knock your socks off. **Look at it for yourself.** I’m getting a lot of emails and phone calls from new people interested in fly fishing and our club because they saw our site.

Tom Gadacz and Brian Clark are tireless in their fly casting instruction. When it’s light enough, they teach before our general meetings and on Monday nights give lessons to the public at Egan Field in St Pete Beach.

Master Casting Instructors Pat Damico and Dale Mazzarella will have two more Saturday casting clinics. This kind of instruction would usually cost hundreds of dollars, but for members it’s free.

See Jeff Heer about tying at some of the sportsman and boat shows. Be ready to tie a lot of flies though, because there are a lot of kids (and adults) who want to tie.

I have enjoyed working with our Officers and Board of Directors: Rick Warfel VP, Karen Warfel Treasurer, Dick Miekka Secretary, John Craig, Truk Trukenbrod, Bob Burkard, Rick Yarn, Tom Gadacz (FL Council President), Bruce Evensen, and Jeff Heer. They are good people and always have the best interest of the Club in mind. We have elections in March, so we may have some new faces on the BOD in April.

And don’t miss our Annual Hog Roast Banquet April 1 with guest speaker Chico Fernandez. Rick and Karen Warfel put a lot of work into making this a festive event: Good food, prizes, and lots of fun.

Bruce Evensen will teach you to tie the fourth Thursday of each month. Come learn with us.

Dave Barson will provide you with the raffle tickets at each meeting for a chance at tying materials.

And there’s new leadership in the IFFF. We have a Floridian: Tom Logan is Chairman of the Board of Directors. He is a SALT WATER fly fishing guide out of Tallahassee and a really nice guy. With him and Tom Gadacz in leadership roles, maybe we will get some attention in our neck of the woods.

Remember January is our trash n treasures meeting. With our famous auctioneer Alan Sewell. Myron Hansen is planning a special pizza and fly tying general meeting in February. Don’t miss it!

*Never lose your sense of adventure.*

*George*

George Haseltine, Proud to Serve as SFF President 2016-17

PS: Don’t forget to complete the club survey in this issue and bring it to the meeting.

## Calendar: Club Meetings & Outings

**Monthly Meetings:** Third Thursday of every month (except December) at St. Pete's **Walter Fuller Park Rec Center**. 6 to 8:30 pm. Guests are welcome.

**Monthly Outings:** The Saturday after the third Thursday of every month in different locations, saltwater and freshwater, with a picnic lunch (usually) at noon.

**Dues are due. Credit cards accepted.** We now have 150 members including 24 family memberships and five honorary members. Membership dues for 2016-2017 were due in September. See Karen Warfel at the January meeting. SFF now accepts credit cards on site at SFF events (meetings, outings, Trash and Treasures, Hog Roast, etc.) for payment of membership dues and virtually all other payments to SFF.

### Thursday, January 19 Meeting.

- Trash 'n' Treasures with auctioneer Alan Sewell. Arrive early to check out the goodies. Bring cash. President George Haseltine will be out of town so VP Rick Warfel will lead the taking-care-of-business portion of the meeting.
- Before the meeting print out and complete the 2017 Membership Survey on pages seven and eight. Bring your completed survey to the meeting and give it to Tom Trukenbrod. Put your name on a slip of paper (not the survey) and you'll get a raffle ticket to win an Echo 8-weight fly rod and case, Echo Ion fly reel, and Echo Solo WF floating fly line.
- Listen up. Outing's co-chair Truk Trukenbrod will announce the winner of December outing and, also, the winners of the 2016 Outing Tournament. Plus, he'll give us the where-to-fish and when-to-eat details for the January outing.
- Arrive before the auction starts Layne (aka Smitty) will tie the fly he recommends to fish the southern end of the bay for January's club outing. See Tying Bench, page 16. Starting with this meeting Smitty will be our "designated tyer" at every monthly meeting.
- Arrive before dark so you can practice your fly casting on the grassy area outside of our meeting room. Look for Tom Gadacz or Brian Clark.
- Nominating committee will be announced.
- Members pick up shirts with SFF logos
- Buy tickets for the Hog Roast and Silent Auction on April 1. Just \$20. Credit cards are accepted.



*Bay Vista Park in South St. Pete has a boat ramp, easy kayak launching, and wade fishing.*

If you cannot attend either meeting then mail your completed survey to PO Box 40821 St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821 to arrive no later than March 1, 2017. Please put your name on a separate piece of paper so a raffle ticket can be assigned to you.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting to turn in your survey. And

### Saturday, January 21 Outing.

- Fish the west side of Tampa Bay from downtown St. Petersburg to I-275.
- Lunch starts at 11:45 at Bay Vista Park, 4<sup>th</sup> Street S. and Pinellas Point Drive.
- This is the first outing tournament for 2017. The longest snook, redfish, seatrout and the ladyfish of the day will take the lead until longer fish are caught at future saltwater outings. Be sure to check out the club's new fish measuring rule on page 12.

## Planning Ahead -- 2017

### Thursday, February 16 Meeting.

- Tie-a-Thon featuring salt water flies, knots and leader tying.
- Free pizza
- Slate of officers and board members announced; nominations from the floor are welcome.

### Saturday, February 18 Outing

- Walsingham Lake County Park, 12615 102 Avenue N.

### Thursday, March 16 Meeting.

- Dayle Mazzarella, speaker
- Election of new officers and board members. They'll take office in April.

### Saturday, March 18 Outing

- Cypress Point Park, 5620. W. Cypress St. Tampa.

### April 1. Annual Hog Roast and Silent Auction

- Treasure Island Municipal Auditorium.
- Featured Speaker --Chico Fernandez.
- Dress casual (or wear a bib. Because "hog roast").

### Thursday, April 20, Meeting

- Walt Durkin is our speaker. Topic: TBD

### Saturday, April 22, Outing

- Hillsborough River

## Everglades Outing: Book a room now before they're gone

Ken Hofmeister has arranged for a nice room discount at La Quinta's [Sunrise Sawgrass Mills](#) for the Everglades outing in April. Hotel Address: 13651 N.W. 2nd Street, Sunrise, Florida; phone: [\(954\) 846-1200](#)

- Arrival Date: 4/27/2017
- Departure Date: 4/30/2017

Two-bed room rate: \$103.50 per room, per night + tax. Everybody pays their own.

Contact the hotel directly or our Group Desk at 1-800-642-4239, Option 1 and ask for the special rate for Suncoast Fly Fishing. Reservations must be made no later than 4/6 to guarantee the discount rate.

For more information view the [Club Calendar](#)

Join the Suncoast Fly Fishers. Application [here](#)

## News 'n' Notes

### Introduction to Fly Casting, St. Pete Beach

**Try a new and challenging sport--**Tom Gadacz and Brian Clark will continue offering free fly casting lessons on the second and fourth Monday of each month from 6 to 8 pm at Egan Field, 9101 Blind Pass Road, St. Pete Beach. The class is designed for beginners with little or no fly casting experience. If you have a fly rod please bring it; if not we will have the necessary equipment. There is no fee for the session but the class is limited to 10 people and it is necessary to sign up at the St. Pete Beach Community Center in person at 7701 Boca Ciega or by calling 727-363-9245. Suncoast Fly Fishers is a Charter club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

- January 9 and 23
- February 13 and 27
- March 13 and 27
- April 10 and 24
- May 8 and 22

### Thursday, January 25, 2017, Introduction to Fly Tying

Suncoast Fly Fisher Bruce Evensen restarts his monthly Introduction to Fly Tying class on Thursday, January 25 at 7 pm. Fly tiers will meet in the conference room at High Performance Plumbing Services at 4450 Morris Street in St. Petersburg. Classes will continue on the fourth Thursday of each month. At the monthly meetings (on the third Thursday of each month) Bruce will announce the name of the fly that will be tied that month.

### Used Gear for Sale

#### Bill Scarola is selling his NUCANOE

NuCanoe, 2 seats, three seat mounts, one custom made, two paddles (one is carbon fiber very light weight), trolling motor mount kit for the stern, 36-inch ruler attached. Fold up cart. Scupper plugs. \$1200. Call Bill Scarola 732-740-7538.

#### Ken Doty is selling his Gheenoe

Gheenoe, 15 foot Highsider. Galvanized trailer. Boat cover. 55lb thrust Minn-Kota trolling motor with auto pilot. 8 hp Mercury outboard. \$2200. Never in saltwater. Call Ken at 526-4753.

#### J. R. Dubler's Bamboo Fly Rod Kit. Never used.

Vintage Circa 1945-52 Ebusu Split Bamboo Fly Rod Kit. Never Used, Set in Original box. Includes: 4 fishing sections plus 1 extra tip, original flies and hooks in original wrappers, encased in wood box. Material: Split Bamboo, Cork Handle, Nickel Plated Metal. Size: 96" or 64" Long. Excellent Condition-Never Used. Great Collector's item. Listed at \$299.00 – Make offer. J.R. Dubler 813-843-3737.

#### Bruce Evensen has fly gear and flies for sale. Call him at 727-403-9010

- 7-8 weight Van Staal fly reel, brand new in the box; never used, \$430.
- Okuma fly reel. 7-9 weight. 2 extra spools. Reel and spools have 20# backing. \$75.
- Thousands of flies from \$1 to \$6 each.

*Special invitation for Suncoast Fly Fishers from fellow member Cliff Nigh...*

#### **Flip Pallot will help St. Pete Fishing Outfitters unveil its new fly shop Feb. 11**

*3450 34<sup>th</sup> Street N  
Saturday 2/11/17  
10 am to 4 pm*

Cliff says the new shop offers an array of rods, reels and accessories plus a huge selection fly of tying materials.

[www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com](http://www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com)  
Facebook and/or Instagram

*Cliff*



## Tom Gadacz: Fly-fishing intro class on March 4

Suncoast Fly Fishers will be hosting an International Federation of Fly Fishers **Introduction to Fly Fishing Class** on March 4 (Saturday) at Bill Jackson at 9501 U. S. 19 North, Pinellas Park, FL. The class is from 10:00 AM to 2:00. There is coffee and pastries from 9:30 to 10:00 and a luncheon from 2:00 to 3:00 PM.

From the club's perspective, the purpose of the class is to get more local people involved in our sport, grow our club, and create more active and educated stewards of our resources. All are welcome! Young, less young, women and men. Fly fishing is for everyone especially if you live in Florida, the Fishing Capital of the World.

The class is designed for people who know little or nothing about fly fishing but have been curious and interested in what is involved in our sport. The class is highly entertaining and interactive and developed so that by the time a participant leaves, he or she will have a good general understanding of fly fishing – What is fly fishing? What is meant by “flies”? Where can I fish? What kind of fish can I catch? What equipment do I need to get started? Who can help me learn? What skills will I need? And lots more! Here's how you can help make this a huge success:

1. **Recruit participants!** You must know someone who has expressed an interest in fly fishing – a co-worker, a neighbor, a relative. Talk to them about the class and personally offer to be their sponsor. \*Sponsors and participants receive raffle tickets which are good for prizes during the meet and greet luncheon immediately following the class.
2. **Offer to help** organize and/or **teach a follow up fly casting class, fly tying class, or fishing trip.**  
\* Offer to attend the meet and greet luncheon and make a connection that might lead to a mentoring relationship with a class participant.  
\*Offer to take a class participant fishing.
3. Offer to volunteer to help organize and/or **run the luncheon, check in participants**, pre-meeting coffee and pastry session, photograph the activities, or run promotional activities, etc., and of course, there's always clean-up to be done. This is a team effort!!

If interested in volunteering, please contact Tom Gadacz at 706-726-7899 or [thomasgadacz@yahoo.com](mailto:thomasgadacz@yahoo.com)

*Tom*

### Tom Trukenbrod: Member survey. Echo Ion 8-weight outfit raffle

The next two pages are the 2017 SFF Membership Survey. Please print out and fill out the survey and bring it to the January or February general meeting. All members in good standing who return a completed survey will receive a raffle ticket to be entered into a raffle at the March general meeting.

The lucky club member wins **an Echo 8-weight, four piece fly rod** with carrying case, Echo Ion fly reel, and Echo Solo WF 8F floating fly line. Echo rods were rated hard to beat in the Yellowstone Angler 2016. Shootout.

Bring your completed survey to the meeting and give it to me at the raffle table. You will be entered into the drawing. The survey is anonymous. Do not put your name on the survey, If you cannot attend either meeting then mail your completed survey to PO Box 40821 St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821 to arrive no later than March 1, 2017. Please put your name on a separate piece of paper so a raffle ticket can be assigned to you. Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting to turn in your survey. And, GOOD LUCK

*Truk.*

## 2017 SFF Anonymous Member Survey

1. Do you think Walter Fuller Recreation Center is a good location for SFF club meetings?

YES       NO    SUGGESTION \_\_\_\_\_

2. Should the fly tier at our meetings tie a fly for the next outing?

ALWAYS     SOMETIME     NEVER

3. Casting instruction is again available before the meetings, will you participate?

YES       NO

4. How often do you buy raffle tickets at the meeting?

ALWAYS       SOMETIME       NEVER

Did you know raffle sales help pay for outing lunches?  YES  NO

5. Are the raffle prize items useful and /or enjoyable?

YES       NO       UNDECIDED

6. Which topics would you like to see covered in future meeting programs? Check as many as you like.

Talks by local guides       Fly Tying Clinics       Environmental Issues       Kayak skills and safety  
 Fish and Wildlife Research       How to choose and buy fly rods, lines and reels       First Aid/ Fishing Injuries  
 Care and maintenance of fly fishing gear       How to improve casting skills  
 Members sharing their best flies, presentation for catching fish in local waters  
 Other (write in) \_\_\_\_\_

7. a) Would you attend an outing at any of these locations? Check as many as you like.

Fort DeSoto     Pinellas Point     Weedon Island     Manatee River     Hillsborough River     Dock Lights at night  
 Veterans' Memorial Park     Honeymoon Island     Chassahowitzka River     Emerson Point     Walsingham Lake  
 Upper Tampa Bay Park     Alligator Lake     Myakka River     Blackthorn/Clam Bar     Cypress Point     Urban  
Outing     Lake Maggiore     South Skyway Rest Area    Other (write in) \_\_\_\_\_

b) How far will you drive?     1/2 Hour     1 Hour     More

c) I would attend more outings IF there was a "Fishing Buddy" signup sheet  YES  NO

d) There would always be the option for wading  YES  NO

8. Would you like the annual banquet meal to be "Hog Roast/ Barbeque" or a different menu?

Keep Barbeque     Change (Suggestion) \_\_\_\_\_

9. What are your favorite auction items? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Would you be willing to teach fly fishing skills to school groups and kids at camp?

YES     NO     Maybe

11. Are you aware that the club has monthly fly tying classes?

YES       NO

12. Would be willing to help veterans in Project Healing Waters at the VA or at an outing at one of the parks in Pinellas County?

YES       NO       MAYBE

Page 2: 2017 SFF Anonymous Member Survey

13. Would you like to volunteer for events like the Florida Expo?  
Yes    No    Maybe

14. Did you know that IFFF provides our Charter Club with the status of a not-for-profit organization, legal advice, and representation at State Council events?  
YES    NO

15. Would you like to have more special outings like the Everglades trip that require traveling further and staying overnight?  
YES    NO    UNDECIDED

16. Over the last eight years or so the club has built up a nice cash reserve. The Board want to use these amounts to enhance the membership's experiences. We would like your suggestions. It could be special outings, speakers, tiers, or authors.

---

---

17. Would you be willing to participate in environmental improvement projects like Coastal Cleanup, fish habitat restoration? YES    NO    UNDECIDED

18. Do you use our website for Fly Tying Instructions? YES NO

19. How often do you use/look at the SFF website?  
Often    Occasionally    Never

20. How often do you use/look at the IFFF website?  
Often    Occasionally    Never

21. What % of your fishing is salt or fresh water?    Saltwater %    Freshwater %

22. Which of the following do you own? Check all that apply.  
 Boat     Kayak     Canoe     Waders     None of above

23. What question would you like to see in the next survey? \_\_\_\_\_

24. For the annual largest fish tournament should the winners come from A) the largest targeted fish caught from each outing, or B) the longest fish in each category --Bass, Sunfish, Sea Trout, Snook, Redfish, or Ladyfish from any outing?  
A\_\_\_\_\_ B\_\_\_\_\_

###

*Thank you for completing the survey. When you turn in the survey, you will be entered in the raffle for an Echo fly rod outfit.*

*This information will help club officers and the board of directors plan meetings and activities to match your interests.*

*Tom Trukenbrod*



# **We are Suncoast Fly Fishers**

## **Suncoast Fly Fishers**

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

## **Club Officers**

Pres: George Haseltine  
Vice Pres: Rick Warfel  
Secretary: Dick Miekka  
Treasurer: Karen Warfel

## **Board of Directors**

John Craig - Tom Gadacz - Jeff Heer - Bob Burkard - Bruce Evensen - Rick Yarn - Tom Trukenbrod

## **Committees**

*Volunteers needed. Please speak to any officer or director at the meeting*

Casting Skills -- Pat Damico, MCI, Dayle Mazzarella, MCI  
IFFF Liaison -- Pat Damico  
Fly Tying -- Myron Hansen  
Membership -- Karen Warfel  
New Members - Rick Warfel  
Webmaster -- Dick Miekka  
Hog Roast Karen+Rick Warfel  
Outings/Lunches - Tom Trukenbrod, Bob Burkard  
Project Healing Waters -- John Craig, Terry Kirkpatrick, Alan Sewell  
Raffles -- Dave Barson  
Programs -- Bd of Directors  
Newsletter -- 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.*

**Directions to our meeting at Walter Fuller Park...**From 22nd Avenue N turn North on 72nd St. N. Turn left (South) on 26th Avenue N. Then turn right into the rec center parking lot

<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](#).

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

**Join. Renew. Application at**  
[www.suncoastflyfishers.com](http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com)



Tom "Truk" Trukenbrod

## Suncoast Fly Fishers Outing Reviews and Previews and Annual Tournament Update

*The SFF Outing Committee is co-chaired by Tom "Truk" Trukenbrod and Bob Burkard with support from John Craig and Dan Bumgarner*



Bob Burkard

### **Don Coleman Classic And Chili Cook-off**

**Saturday, December 17, Fort DeSoto Park**

Our December outing at Fort DeSoto Park was a memorable day for a number of reasons, including good food, good friends, great weather, and yes, OK, fly fishing.....

Forty-five people from Suncoast Fly Fishers and other local fly fishing clubs came together to fish, eat, and celebrate the memory of past Suncoast Fly Fishers member Don Coleman. Members who knew him shared stories and memories of Don, and reminded all of us that our participation in this club helps bind us together, and create friendships that last longer than a lifetime. We are truly blessed to have this club for friendship and sharing of fly fishing knowledge.

Rick Warfel caught the most memorable fish, a 20-inch trout that won the longest fish contest. Congratulations Rick.

There were five entries in our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Chili Cook-off. Of course, I am totally biased toward my wife's Sweet Chili, but the other entries were simply amazing. So, while we did have two "official" winners: (1) Carole Burkard and (2) Alan Sewell, the real winners were all the people who got to enjoy the five totally different varieties of chili that were available. Our compliments to the members who brought the sides/extras to our meal. They were fantastic.



*Lesson: Always be first in the line when they're serving chili.  
Kevin Kelly photo*



*\$100 raffle winner Bob Morrison. Kevin Kelly photo*

Bob Morrison won our \$100 raffle. (Bob, maybe you can use some of your winnings in our Trash and Treasures auction at our January meeting.)

One interesting note is that Rodney Page, a writer from the Tampa Bay Times, came to our outing and his article on fly fishing was published in the December 19 issue.

*Bob*

*January outing—Pinellas Point from Bay Vista Park. Preview on next page*

## 2016 CLUB OUTING TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Species	Length	Leader to date	Outing caught
Longest sunfish	8-inches	Tom Trukenbrod	Chassahowitzka River (September)
Longest snook	23.5-inches	Ken Hofmeister	Docklight outing (June)
Longest ladyfish	18.5-inches	Mark Hays	Urban Outing (May)
Longest seatrout	20 inches	Rick Warfel	Don Coleman Classic, Fort DeSoto Park (Dec)

### Pinellas Point Outing Saturday, January 21, Bay Vista Park, St. Petersburg

#### PREVIEW

Our next outing will be a “try to stay out of the NE wind while you fish” outing. Historically this outing has been cold and windy which gives us the opportunity to break out our survival fishing apparel. Polar fleece, wind breakers, hats, gloves, and waders may be the best choices.

Our fishing area is the western side of Tampa Bay from downtown St. Pete to I275. The targeted fish for the outing is ladyfish. That winner also takes the lead in the ladyfish category of the annual outing tournament.

Lunch will be at the Bay Vista park pavilion.

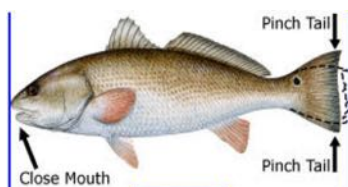
Directions: Going **South on 275** from the north. Before you get to the Skyway **EXIT at 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue South** (Pinellas Bayway exit) staying to the left to 54<sup>th</sup> Ave. So. At bottom of the ramp go left and go approximately 2 miles to **4<sup>th</sup> Street South**. (54<sup>th</sup> ends and you have to turn). **TURN Right on 4<sup>th</sup>** approximately one mile on your left at the big curve is **Bay Vista Park**.

*Truk*

### Starting now, here’s how to measure fish at club outings

One of the benefits we receive as members of the Suncoast Fly Fishers is the fun of participating in monthly outings and annual contests for catching the longest fish. These contests are all in good fun and the prizes that are awarded are of nominal value with the purpose of promoting comradely and friendship. While our friendly competitions are based on trust, our board would like to introduce more consistency in the way that participates measure their longest fish.

Moving forward we will follow Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s guidelines for measuring the length of fish caught. To keep things simple we will use the **Total Length Measurement** method for all fish.



Total Length is measured from the most forward point of the head, with the mouth closed, to the farthest tip of the tail with the tail compressed or squeezed, while the fish is lying on its side.

*Bob Burkard*

## Tom Gadacz: Why we call it the “Don Coleman Classic?”

We honored C. W. “Don” Coleman at our December outing at Fort DeSoto Park. Many of our new members did not have the opportunity to meet and get to know Don Coleman. Paul Sequeira did, though, and he wrote an excellent article about his friendship with Don that appeared in the April, 2006 issue of “On the Fly.”



*Tom Gadacz (1) with members of the Mangrove Coast Fly Fishing Club in Sarasota*

Don was born in April of 1922 and spent most of his life in New York, mainly in Binghamton. When he was about eight years old, he fished and hunted with his father. They belonged to a fishing and hunting club and competed in various events.

During World War II he served as a Navy radio operator in the North Atlantic. He received an engineering degree from Cornell University and served as the Broome County Highway & Roads Commissioner. He designed many of the roads and bridges in upstate New York. Don designed and

built their home in Binghamton. This included digging and laying the foundation, laying all the brick for the walls, and installing all the electricity and plumbing. Don had a good teacher, his father, who was a stonemason and bricklayer. After retirement Don and his wife Beverly would close up their summer house in Binghamton and spend the winter months in Florida.

Don retired around 1987 and spent a couple of winters on the east coast of Florida, but then settled on the west coast where he was more familiar, having spent vacations here as a youngster. He and Bev rented apartments for a while but then settled on a convenient trailer park where they purchased a comfortable trailer.

Don and Paul Sequeira met in 1992 at Carl Hanson’s house and a great friendship began. Both had a common interest in fly fishing and had fished some of the same streams in New York’s Catskill Mountains. They spent many a fishing day together, mainly wade fishing the shoreline from Honeymoon Island to Emerson Point. Ft. DeSoto and the Skyway area were two favorite spots.



*Paul Sequeira*

Don was a fly fishing enthusiast and teacher. He read about new techniques and tested them. He tried new fly tying materials and simplified tying techniques and would share them with others. One of his rules was that a fly had to take less than ten minutes to tie. He also read about new casting techniques and he and Paul would put them to the test in the field. Most were rejected but the good ones were passed along.

Don was an amiable person and loved to meet and discuss fly fishing with anyone. He shared his experience and talent with anyone who was interested and many benefited from sitting at Don’s table at Carl Hanson’s house and at John Homer’s shop. His go-to favorite flies included the Clouser Deep Minnow, Carl’s Bend Back, Lefty’s Deceiver, Seaducer and Tabory’s Snake Fly.

*Continued...*

## P2 Why we call it the “Don Coleman Classic?”

Don compiled his fishing experience in the booklet entitled *Wading the Saltwater Flats with a Fly Rod*. Don dedicated the publication to his wife Beverly “And to my good friend and fishing partner Paul Sequira who keeps me going in the right direction...And to the memory of Carl Hanson who went to fish from that other shore in 1988 and who taught me that “The only thing you have that you can give away and still keep is your knowledge.” This is great advice and part of the SFF Aims and Purpose. He also gave special thanks to all his friends in Suncoast Fly Fishers.

Don passed away on April 5, 2006 and the Suncoast Fly Fishers Board agreed to name the December outing at Fort DeSoto Park the “Don Coleman Classic.” We celebrated the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Don Coleman Classic this December.

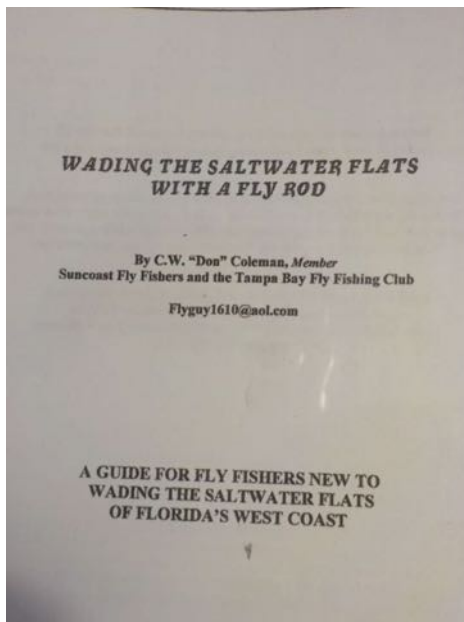
Every member receives a copy of Don’s book. If you have not read the book, please do so. It has valuable information about fly fishing and life as a fly fisher. It is the go-to source for anyone who fly fishes this area. Would you like to know what rod, reel, line and tippet to use? He gives you the scoop on wading the flats and how to catch fish. Don’t wait for a windy or bad weather day to read it. Take a break from winter fly tying. For those of us who did not know Don, read his book and your life will also be richer. For those of you who knew Don, I envy you.

*Tom*



*Carl Hanson (left) helping a young man tie his first fly. Don Coleman dedicated his booklet to Carl Hanson, now deceased, and to Paul Sequira*

## Insights from “Wading the Saltwater Flats with a Fly Rod”



- “Any fly you are afraid to throw into heavy cover is only good for an ornament.”
- “Flies should be easy to cast and simple to tie. Remember “Occam’s Razor” (The simplest solution is usually the best solution.)”
- “A fly does not have to look like food. It only has to act like food.”
- “Presentation is more important than exact imitation.”
- “Sparse flies allow light to pass through the fly to create shading and contrast and dimensionality...and they are easier to cast.”
- “Fish have to find your fly before they strike. Fishing flies should contrast with their surroundings and not be camouflaged like baitfish.”



## Snapshots from the Don Coleman Classic



Welcoming comments from President George Haseltine. Below, Dave Barson takes it all in.



Chili Contest Humor – Mark Hays, Annie Hays and George Haseltine read from a famous chili contest humor article. Samples: >I'm not sure what I'm supposed to taste besides pain. I had to wave off two people who wanted to give me the Heimlich maneuver. > Call the EPA. I've located a uranium spill. >I f\_\_ted, and four people behind me needed paramedics. >You could put a grenade in my mouth, pull the pin, and I wouldn't feel a thing.



Taste buds at work. Mark Hays and Annie Hays carefully sampled and rated each of the five chilies.

## Outing/tournament winner: Rick Warfel's 20-inch seatrout



X marks the spot



I had a really good day fishing at the Don Coleman outing at Ft. De Soto. I was fishing the lagoon behind the east end of Mullet Key. After a long wade across the grass flat, I came to some deeper water. The first fish that I caught was a trout I estimated to be 17 inches. I had decided to take a photo of this fish before measuring. By the time I had fumbled around to get my phone out of my chest pack, the fish slipped away and came unhooked. I could only hope to catch another good fish so that I could get a proper measurement. A short time later I landed, measured and photographed a nice 20-inch trout. By the end of the day I caught and measured one more fish, another fat 17 incher. All caught on the same olive over yellow Clouser.

*Rick*

## Tampa Bay Times Salutes Fly Fishing

Note: Rodney Page of the Tampa Bay Times and a staff photographer came to our December Outing at Fort DeSoto and published a nice article about our club and about fly fishing in general with comments by Layne (Smitty) Smith, Alan Sewell, Tom Gadacz, Frank Moss, and Walt Durkin of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. Here are some excerpts. Read the whole thing [here](#). Be sure to scroll through the excellent photos online.



Jack Collins demoed fly casting for the Times' writer and photographer. Tom Gadacz photo.

### Winter's the perfect time for saltwater fly fishing

By Rodney Page, Times Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Layne Smith spends most of his days thinking like a fish. Where most people see a feather duster or a brush with synthetic bristles, Smith sees a lure. He is constantly tying flies. He said his St. Petersburg home is filled with fly-fishing materials. He makes them as a hobby, but it is also a vocation. He sells his flies in area shops. Smith, 71, has been fly fishing ever since his grandfather took him out when he was 6 years old. He is an original member of the Suncoast Fly Fishers, a group of 135 who meet monthly and fish even more often. Ever since the first fish gulped down his fly, Smith has been hooked. "It's phenomenal; there is nothing like it," he said. "There is no better feeling than knowing you fooled a fish with something you tied."

---

"Fly fishing is something you can do year round, but I especially like it in the winter months," said Walt Durkin, president of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club. "From November until about February there are strong low tides in the morning and you can wade out and fish the edges of flats. The water is clear, which is perfect for sight fishing."

...

Then there are the flies. In the Tampa Bay area, three types of flies will work for saltwater. "You have to make a fly that looks like what the fish are feeding on," said Alan Sewell, another original member of the Suncoast Fly Fishers. "There's only three things they eat in Tampa Bay, a minnow, a shrimp or a crab. You tie flies that look like those three things and you'll catch fish."

...

"There's no secret spots," Suncoast Fly Fishers member Frank Moss said. "If you're catching fish, you want others to catch fish as well. At least that's how it is with this group."

...

"What's fun about it is the older you get the better you get," said Tom Gadacz, president of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. "I think you just get more relaxed and you're not as uptight."



Club hero pose. Founders of Suncoast Fly Fishers Layne Smith, Robert Fischer, Paul Sequira, and Alan Sewell



## Suncoast Fly Fishers visit FWC's redfish breeding ponds

**December 14:** A very foggy morning deterred many SFF members from visiting the FWC Fisheries Stock Enhancement Research Facility (SERF) in Port Manatee. By the time we drove into Port Manatee the fog had burned off, the sun was bright and the wind was a mild breeze.

We seven adventurous fellows were treated to a great talk by Gina Russo, FWC Outreach Coordinator. The red drum brood stock they oversee to maintain adequate populations of red drum is a very complex research effort of acquiring mature breeding redfish, collecting fertilized eggs, hatching these eggs and growing them out to various, stocking Florida watersheds and tracking the outcome of all this work.



*Gina Russo, FWC Outreach Coordinator, Suncoast Fly Fishers Joe Corr, Bob Morrison, Bill Scarola, Bruce Evenson, Kevin Kelly, Jimmy Carroll, and Tom Gadacz*



*Spot the fingerlings? Joe Corr photo*

Using DNA analysis as well as other tagging mechanisms, the researchers are able to track their results and plan strategies for the future. What stage of development is most productive to stock the watershed? Is location important? They have some insights to some of these questions. Millions of tiny one month old, one-inch fingerlings seem to get the biggest bang for your buck compared to three- and six-month old fish which are more costly to raise. Releasing them in the upper part of the river where the saltwater meets the freshwater seems to have another advantage.

These research efforts are now requiring a major change in methods of stock enhancement. The current facility has a very large area with the source of water directly from the Bay. The big tanks and ponds receive raw water from Tampa Bay, which then drains into retention ponds in order to be treated and drained back into the Bay. Various pressures now require a

smaller environmental footprint, smaller tanks, reuse of water, cultivating plankton to feed the hatchlings, and many other challenges that require the researchers to adopt new technologies to breed these fish. In addition, the facility will be moving to a new facility in Apollo Beach where they will not have limited access to Bay waters. After a great talk and seeing several specimens including fresh tiny red drum eggs, we fed the latest brood stock of some 50 redfish. They devoured the mackerel we threw in the water. These fish were 36 inches plus.



*Three-foot long redfish devoured mackerel we threw into the pond*

After the feeding, we fished the retention pond which contained water from all the other ponds that is discharged into the Bay after a natural filtration process through vegetation and the Spartina grass field. This retention pond is not stocked but has a variety of fish and other aquatic creatures, all of which achieved residencies by various means including transportation from other areas via bird air transport. They contain tarpon, snook, red drum, mullet, seatrout, flounder and blue crab and many other creatures.

Most of us had casting practice but Joe Corr landed a red drum with a cinnamon & white Clouser. Great persistence to get that fish! A great educational experience as well as sunny day to fly fish. Where else could such an adventure be had than in Florida. *Tom Gadacz*



This is the fly I will be tying for the January meeting ... It's a great fly for ladyfish (the target fish for the January outing) as well as Spanish mackerel or any other species that loves a flashy presentation with a quick retrieve. You can use any color combination you like as this comes in a wide variety of colors. I like to use pearl for the tail and body and a mix of pearl and silver for the wing to imitate glass minnows for ladyfish. Other combinations are great for fish like Spanish mackerel that like a lot of flash.

**Materials**

Hook: Mustad 33011 #2 - 1/0 (or my favorite Mustad 34184D (long shank) or 34185D (short shank) jig hook

Thread: Danville Flat waxed Nylon

Eyes: Barbell eyes of choice (i.e. brass, lead or bead chain)

Tail: Kreinik Flash Silver

Body: Kreinik Flash Silver > Make these three items as sparse or as full as you like. \* Check NOTE:

Wing: Kreinik Flash Gold

Cement: Solarez UV Resin, SHHAN or your favorite head cement

**Tying Instructions**

Step 1: Insert hook in vise and wrap thread base to hook point. Return thread to 2/3 point on hook and tie in barbell eyes with figure of eight wraps.

Step 2: Return thread to hook point and tie in tail by doubling material over thread to measure one hook shank length and cut. Tie down firmly and return thread to just in front of barbell eyes.

Step 3: Tie in body material (should extend just past hook bend) in front of barbell eyes with a couple of firmly wound wraps allowing excess material to extend out over hook eye. Fold excess body material back over barbell eyes and tie down toward hook bend ending with your thread just behind barbell eyes.

Step 4: Return thread to just before barbell eyes and tie in wing material to measure same length as body, fold over and tie down firmly creating a smooth head. Whip finish head with smooth wraps. Trim excess wing material off to match body length.

Step 5: Coat thread wraps with UV Resin, SHHAN or your favorite head cement

*Smitty*

# Fly Fishing and Touring New Zealand

By Jim and Marie Shipley

We just returned from a trip to the South Island of New Zealand, traveling from Dec 12 -28. We traveled over 1100 miles sightseeing and fishing, circling what the NZ folks call the Southern Alps. We flew into Christchurch and drove directly to Moana on the West Coast across Arthur's Pass.



*Jim Shipley with one of a dozen big brown trout the Shipleys caught fishing Lake Brunner in New Zealand.*

The first day at Lake Brunner from a small boat we caught a dozen brown trout all three to five pounds throwing large dry flies at cruising fish near the shore line. The start was a great day considering the windy rainy weather.

We then drove down the West Coast and across Hass Pass to Wanaka. Our subsequent itinerary included Queenstown, Gore, Cromwell, Omarama and back to Christchurch.

Starting in Wanaka the next type of fishing was walking small streams sight fishing for large fish. This resulted

in only a few fish for each day but was very different than any trout fishing that I have done in the US.

New Zealand doesn't have large numbers of fish per mile like we have in some of the rivers in the U. S. but except for one 12-incher the fish I caught were three to five pound browns. The last stop for fishing was on the famous Mataura River (their term) in Gore. This was as far south as we traveled.



*Jim Shipley caught 12 to 15 large brown trout casting nymphs-into freestone ripples on the Mataura River.*

We stopped at Stu's Famous Fly Shop to purchase some flies for the Mataura -- web site is [www.stusflyshop.com](http://www.stusflyshop.com) . The Mataura River is supposedly the only river in the South Island that is similar to the rivers in the western US due to an insect population that is absent in other parts of the island.

We fished with a guide and the river delivered really well, 12 to 15 large browns caught casting nymphs into freestone riffles. New Zealand fishing was great and the scenery was a bonus with the mountain glacial lakes and wild flowers in bloom.

It was a long plane ride, yes, but this was a trip worth taking.

*Jim and Marie*

## David Putnam: Crafty insights using silicone tails

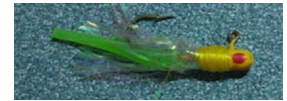


#1 strike indicators  
(aka foam corks)  
#2 dropper "flies"

#1...Out west, fancy fly fishermen call these strike indicators. I call 'em foam corks, and they come in a wide variety. When fishing Florida's sometimes weedy, grassy bluegill territory, I find that using these with a dropper fly like the three shown below the indicators—

#2-- allows me to cast into potholes back in the pads, and let the fly drop straight down. Lift it once, let it fall, don't drag it through the grass. Lift and cast to a new spot. I have fished various flies on a dropper under a popping bug, but the hook on the popper catches weeds and pads and tangles in the dropper line. I only resort to the indicators when my popping bugs aren't working. Beads and tiny spinners add weight and action to the silicone bodies cut from a child's toy. (Smitty and Ken Doty have thousands of 'em.)

#3... A crappie jig that's my best at the moment, a silicone tail simply hooked on the back like grouper fishermen use plastic tails. These little tails also look great on the back of a few of my bonefish flies.



#3 Crappie "jig"



#4 Foam bass bug  
with silicone legs

#4...Foam bodied bass bug with two silicone legs with a knot tied in 'em. The silicone doesn't dry out like rubber and they're fine wigglers. Tied weedless it's a top-notch fly for the pads all around Florida. A size four hook is plenty big.

#5... Two spoons from Hofmann's Lures that I modified to add the silicone tails. They're about two inches long with the tail, and catch a lot of speckled perch for me in DeLand on the St. Johns River. They also work well beneath an indicator. At night in St. Pete, under the dock lights, they'd be killers. On size six hooks.



#5 Two Hoffman spoons with legs

#6...Tied on an Owner "Down Shot Offset" 1/0 worm hook, shown below the fly/lure. The bead-chain eyes are tied below the offset,



#6 Split legs rigged weedless

which allows the plastic, split-tail worm to be installed so that it comes up flush with the eyes. It's a killer in the grass, better, I think, than the popular large foam Gurgler flies tied on big hooks. You could weight it or use lead eyes, but I like the way it rides across the pads, snaking along...with a forked weed-guard of 20lb. mono.

TIP: To make the silicone stay on the hook I burn a slit in the silicone with a heated hook or bodkin slightly larger than the hook I'll be using. Simply hold the bodkin or hook to be heated with a hemostat or pliers over a match flame for a few seconds, then press it gently into the silicone/plastic body until it's made the slot you want. Wait a few more seconds and it will pull out and you can set the hook you want to fish with in the slot with super glue or epoxy. You can hold the body tight around the hook until it dries if you like. I usually tie a base of tying thread on the bare hook, thinking it will absorb the glue and make it easier to set the hook. If you heat the hook you plan to fish with it will be discolored. Do these two steps.

#7...A fly spoon with legs from a bass spinner bait. This is a store-bought Dupre spoon with a stiff wire weed-guard, perfect for fresh water where I live now, or in Tampa Bay. Johnson spoons with various skirts and plastic tails are regular producers for the Redfish crowd, and have accounted for many big bass in south Florida.

*Good Fishing!*  
*David*



#7 Dupre spoon with legs



## Tom Gadacz - Capt. Pat Damico: December tarpon and snook

### Two great Christmas presents



*Tom Gadacz with one of the river snook landed fishing with Pat Damico.*

With the delightful December weather Pat Damico and I explored some new territory in a river that feeds into the Gulf.

After leaving the boat ramp we noticed some action down river during an incoming tide.

Using a new pattern that Pat tied we each tied into some baby tarpon. There were several pods that moved toward us. I had a surprising strike in an area where I thought they had left. The line goes tight and the fish runs. Out of the water for two marvelous jumps! After a few minutes of exciting action the line goes limp. Lost 'em. They disappeared as quickly as they appeared.

The rest of the day we caught a fair share of snook mainly along the banks.

The next day we returned to challenge the tarpon. This time it was Pat's turn to hook one and have it make a run. Then up in the air for some acrobatics. Back in the water for a few more runs, then the line is still. We spent the rest of the day catching snook. Two great Christmas presents!



*Pat Damico's tarpon fly was on target for small river tarpon.*

*Tom*

## Dennis Marquis – Blues and macks in the Weedon channel



*Ben Marquis and a mack*

Over the Thanksgiving holiday Dennis Marquis, with his son Ben and brother Bob, landed mackerel and bluefish on the edge of the Weedon channel in middle bay. They got many strikes with the fly rod but, alas, Dennis confesses, it took some fast moving hard lures on spinning rods to get the real hook ups. Still, attaboys all around.



*Robert Marquis' blue*

## Bob Morrison: Fly Fishing Tips Plus One Fishy Factoid



### Rustproof pliers are a man's best friend

**Get a grip** -- When fishing, make sure that you have a strong pair of pliers with you at all times. Choose pliers strong enough to cut through a large hook shank. The pliers should also be rustproof and have a pointed jaw for extracting hooks from a fish's jaw. For security, attach each plier handle to a strong cord, join the cords together, and attach to your belt with a zinger. Your pliers will be handy when you need them, and you can't lose them in the ocean.

**Stop-Look-and Listen** -- I'm amazed to hear that you can catch a channel catfish on a dry fly, even a number 14 Blue Dun dry. For better luck and to attract largemouth bass and other freshwater fish, use a big bushy fly like an oversized caddis. Watch for surface activity and birds, just as in salt water. Ospreys can be helpful here, also eagles. Remember, insects represent a large part of the diet of freshwater fish. Teach yourself to wait, look, and listen. A few minutes spent watching can save hours of time and energy as well. Know the time of the tides, watch currents, look for structure, drop-offs, and mangrove shallows. Again, watch the birds for activity and keep an eye out for surface disturbance and the wakes of fish swimming in the shallows.

**Tie a one claw crawfish** -- For freshwater, keep some sinking crawfish flies in your kit. From two inches to three and a half inches is a good range of length for this fly. Tie the fly with the hook eye at the tail of the crawfish, and fish the fly slowly with small movements of a few inches at a time. Tie some flies with only one claw, so that the crawfish will look less capable of defending itself.

*Go get 'em and good luck!*

*Bob*

---

### Fishy Factoid of the month

#### 3000-year-old hooks are sharp and ready to fish

In a recent archeological excavation in England, several three thousand-year-old bronze fish hooks were discovered. These hooks are with both single and treble points, are barbed, sharp, and ready for use today. How about that, neighbors?

*Bob*

## Capt. Pat Damico: Fly Casting Clinic. Tip #84



### Coping with the wind

*By Capt. Pat Damico, IFFF Master Casting Instructor*

This time of year, when planning a successful fly fishing outing, wind may be the thing to consider most. Clients call asking, "How will the fishing be on a particular date?" A mental plan of the venue may change completely when the day finally arrives, not only because of the wind speed and direction, but also because of the fly fishers inability to cope with it. A smooth glassy surface makes shallow water fish very spooky necessitating long perfectly accurate casts that do not disrupt the fish's environment. Delivering the fly or line with a splash, hitting the fish with the line or leader; ripping the water on a sloppy pickup all prevent success. Broken surface water caused by the wind allows you to get closer to fish, forgiving more of your mistakes. Reds, trout and snook reward a stealthy approach under all conditions. Do some casting in your yard or on a field on windy days with. Pick targets and deliver a practice fly as you would under regular fishing conditions. Tight loops, where your rod leg and fly leg are close together will always penetrate the wind better than a large loop. Shorten and stiffen your leader for better turnover. Reduce the size and weight of flies remembering in fly fishing the

line not the fly's weight improves casting distance.

*Pat Damico, St. Pete Beach*

*Capt. Pat Damico charts in lower Tampa Bay. Contact: [captpat.com](http://captpat.com) (727) 504-8649*

### Captain's Corner: via [Tampa Bay Times](#)

#### **Snook, baby tarpon on the move**

*By Pat Damico, Tampa Bay Times Correspondent*

Falling water temperature is causing snook and baby tarpon to head upriver to their winter haunts, where both species can adapt to freshwater. Many fish that have been around river mouths, bridges and near beaches are migrating upriver and making frequent feeding stops. Structure is key as any diversion from a smooth bank often holds baitfish. Points, sand holes, channels, fallen trees, undercut banks and small mangrove islands must all be explored. Don't spend a lot of time in one spot. Cast accurately with baitfish patterns the size and color of what you see in the water. A cast that lands 3 feet from structure will not produce as well as one within inches or under fish holding obstacles. Watch your temperature gauge. Warmer water in small shallow bays can be a hot spot. Fish will often be in groups, so when one or two are caught, continue fishing the area. Keep the boat parallel to shore with an electric motor where two experienced fly casters can work an area using different setups. An outgoing tide will drain small creeks of baitfish and large predators will be in the closest deep hole waiting for an easy meal.



## Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover



**Convict fish populations in trouble?** I'm pretty sure the blame lies on the commercial side of the commercial-recreational ledger. Incidentally, you should know this one weird trick to catching a sheepshead on the fly. Old timers say you must set the hook before the fish hits. ([The Fishing Wire](#))

**Pass the popcorn** –The Orvis Friday film festival is a must-visit bookmark for me. Here's a recent collection of 11 fly fishing videos. Be sure to check out the video of the guy teasing the blue marlin to strike his fly. ([Orvis](#))

**Quick, tie up some Clousers and go for a new fly fishing record** -- They've got video of a never seen before, transparent fish in the (very) deep Mariana Trench of the Pacific Ocean. It was 26,722 feet down. ([National Geographic](#))

**Start prepping for the Everglades trip in April** -- Florida has certified a new state record for Mayan Cichlid – 2.37 pounds. Go for it. Also, while you're on this site, learn about Florida's new *TrophyCatch* program for bass. Seven anglers registered bass that weighed 13 pounds or more. One guy caught a 14-pound, 10-ounce bass in Pasco County's Jessamine Lake. Hey, maybe we should have an outing there. ([FWC Freshwater Angler](#))

**Hey, let's make this a club "outing."** Good news. [Flip Pallot](#) of Walker Cay Chronicles fame will be at St. Pete Fishing Outfitters Feb. 11 to call attention to its new fly fishing department. Fellow club member Cliff Nigh has been the brains and braun behind this project. I'm hoping Flip will be signing his new book – *Mangroves, Memories and Magic* – and his new DVD, *A Conversation with Flip and Lefty Kreh*.

**Just go away** – In Pinellas County, in the first week of January red tide blooms – *Karenia brevis* – were observed in four locations, nine Manatee County locations, and eight Sarasota County locations. ([My FWC](#))

**How long has this been going on?** – In New York State three men were arrested with 69 salmon and steelhead snagged from a Lake Ontario's 18-Mile-Creek creek, a superfund toxic site. The poachers were ready to put the fish on a getaway truck. ([Fly Fisherman](#))

**Do your research** – *Tampa Bay On The Fly*, the Tampa fly shop, one of our club's loyal and long-time supporters, has a chart showing which fish are prime targets throughout the year. Check it out. Catchy name for a store, imho, said the editor. ([Tampa Bay On The Fly](#))

**Best Fly Fishing in the U.S.?** – One-two-three: Cheeca Lodge in the Keys, Pennsylvania's Potter County, and Beaverkill River in New York. Scroll down, way down, then what the hey, there's our own [Mobbly Bayou](#) near Oldsmar. Ok, then where are [Weedon Island Preserve](#) and [Picnic Island Park](#)? ([CapMel](#))

**Who knew?** -- To our list of celebrity fly fishers (snark alert)-- [Donald, Hillary, Bernie](#) – we can add Henry Winkler, aka [The Fonz on Happy Days](#) to whom we owe the expression "Jumping the Shark." It seems that after many seasons with declining ratings *Happy Days* producers had a great (*ahem*) idea to pull in more viewers. So they put Fonzie on water skis and had The Fonz leap over a shark. (At that very instant you could hear millions of TV sets being turned off.) So, now, when something stupid like that happens on TV, in the movies, or anywhere it's called *Jumping the Shark*. ([Screenrant](#))

**Special Friends of  
Suncoast Fly Fishers**



**West Coast**  
KAYAKS & PADDLE BOARDS  
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

---

**Capt. Jerry Allen**

6647 Central Ave. St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
727.954.8814 • www.West-Coast-Kayaks.com

✉ Jerry @ West-Coast-Kayaks.com ✉



**WWW.NUCANOE.COM**

To place an ad in On The Fly  
email Karen Warfel at  
kmwarfel@yahoo.com



**Key West Express**

CERTIFICATE of EXCELLENCE  
by J. Paul Marlow, Ph.D.

keywestexpress.net 239-463-5733



**PLANTATION**  
on Crystal River

plantationoncrystalriver.com  
800-632-6262



**CORTLAND**  
LINE COMPANY | SINCE 1915

CORTLANDLINE.COM  
800-847-6787



**High PERFORMANCE PLUMBING SERVICES**

www.hpps.biz

**Mark Craig**  
Service Technician

Tel: 727.323.7243  
Fax: 727.528.8528  
Cell: 727.423.3195

mark@hpps.biz  
FL LIC CFC1425678  
4450 Morris Street N  
St. Petersburg, FL 33714

**Special Friends of  
Suncoast Fly  
Fishers**



**3100 4<sup>th</sup> Street N. St. Pete**  
**[www.boatersrepublic.com](http://www.boatersrepublic.com)**

**ORVIS**



**1-866-865-4695**  
**WWW.ONOS.COM**  
Lifetime Warranty



**WWW.BILLJACKSONS.COM**  
**727-576-4169**

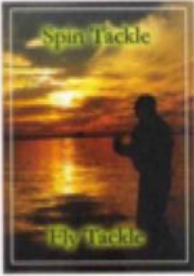
**ANDY THORNAL COMPANY** Since 1945

GATEWAY TO ADVENTURE SINCE 1945

(800) 499-9890

**WWW.ANDYTHORNAL.COM**

**Special Friends of  
Suncoast Fly  
Fishers**




**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](mailto:flyguy@captpat.com)


GOODYEAR • TOYO • COOPER • MICHELIN



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

**727-822-3981**  
**TODD MURRIAN** [www.bobleetire.com](http://www.bobleetire.com)  
 1831 • 4th STREET NORTH • ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704



**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



**St. Pete**  
 FISHING OUTFITTERS  
 3450 34<sup>th</sup> Street N. St. Pete  
[www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com](http://www.stpetefishingoutfitters.com)



FISHING LIGHTS  
**HYDRO GLOW**  
 DOCK LIGHTS  
**706-991-5108**  
[www.hydroglow.com](http://www.hydroglow.com)



**ECHO**  
[www.echoflyfishing.com](http://www.echoflyfishing.com)  
[www.rajeffsports.com](http://www.rajeffsports.com)



**CARBON  
MARINE**  
[www.shop.carbonmarine.com](http://www.shop.carbonmarine.com)



***Special Friends of  
Suncoast Fly  
Fishers***



[WWW-METAL-FAB INC. COM](http://WWW-METAL-FAB INC. COM)

**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](http://alpenoptics.com)

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



3625 S. Manhattan Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33629 727-504-4062



**To place an ad in *On The Fly* please  
email Karen Warfel at  
[kmwarfel@yahoo.com](mailto:kmwarfel@yahoo.com)**

# Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers

*edible*  
TAMPA BAY

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

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



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



**SUNSECT**  
**INSECT REPELLENT**  
+SUNSCREEN

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



Captain Shawn McCole

Inshore Fly Fishing and Light Tackle

Tarpon • Snook • Redfish

Phone: 863 • 608 • 3758

Email: [captshawnmccole@gmail.com](mailto:captshawnmccole@gmail.com)

U.S.C.G. Licensed & Insured

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

CUSTOM ROD  
BUILDING AND REPAIR



ALAN SEWELL  
Owner

Phone: (727) 470-4570  
Fax: (727) 344-0503  
[sewellalan@yahoo.com](mailto:sewellalan@yahoo.com)

SALT - FRESH - FLY




#SeeWhatsOutThere

[costadelmar.com](http://costadelmar.com)

To place an ad in *On The Fly* please  
email Karen Warfel at  
[kmwarfel@yahoo.com](mailto:kmwarfel@yahoo.com)

## ***Special Friends of Suncoast Fly Fishers***



Custom Bamboo Fly Rods  
[www.nighflyrods.com](http://www.nighflyrods.com)



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



**Fly Fishing  
Western Wyoming**  
Dayle Mazarella  
emailmazz@yahoo.com  
(760) 703-0118

WYOMING  
Guided Fishing Trips  
Casting Lessons  
Group Rates  
June - October  
SAN DIEGO  
Casting Lessons  
November - December  
TAMPA  
Casting Lessons  
January - May

Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Master Casting Instructor

Fly Fishing Western Wyoming .com

Guided Trips - Casting Lessons

[flyfishingwesternwyoming.com](http://flyfishingwesternwyoming.com)



GET IN TOUCH!  
[www.scientificanglers.com](http://www.scientificanglers.com)

