

On The Fly

*Newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg
Promoting fly fishing, fly tying, fly casting, and marine conservation in a family fun atmosphere*



Capt. Ray Markham, August Speaker: The Dog Days of Summer. P 3



Maximo Park Outing in July. Cool breeze, Cajun/creole menu. Yum. P 8



SFF members Bill Scarola and Mike Simmons fished Ontario's Lac la Croix in early August. P 13



Andy Lykens describes the good work Tampa Bay Watch does. P 10



Dennis Marquis fly-fishing in the Smokeys. P 18



IFTD Fly Fishing Show. P 14



SFF President Letter – August 2018

Hello Everyone,

People think that the Presidency of this organization is the most important office. They contact me after finding our website or visiting one of our booths at the many fly-tying and casting events we hold. They seek my advice on many things thinking that because I am the President I am the one who always knows the answer.

Fortunately, I am surrounded by the most knowledgeable and generous people in our sport. Fly fishermen and women who are more than willing to help, share and support individuals and our club's commitments.

And, as I read our newsletter, digest the many articles submitted by our members, and watch as new people step forward to accept new responsibilities, I know that the real force behind this organization is the willingness of people to serve, motivated by the friendly nature of those already serving. And you all take your responsibilities seriously. Your friendliness has also caused a lot of people to come forward lately to donate things. I am so grateful to be a part of this Club!

Most organizations, from home owner and condo associations, to trade associations, to schools, to places of worship, seem to always have a hard time getting people to volunteer. We don't. People have been coming to us on their own.

I realize that this is a club established and united by a common interest and enjoyment of fly fishing. How much more fun could one ask for? But, what our members are doing is really work.

Rick Warfel established a Succession Planning Committee to prepare for the upcoming vacancies on our Board of Directors and to help those other areas where the leaders either need a break or just a helping hand. If you have any inclination, please step forward.

If there is a reason you are not attending our meetings, outings, classes and clinics, please talk to me. If there is something we should do differently, I would like to know what it is. As we all pull together, it is amazing how many ideas and improvements come into view.

Don't be afraid to make suggestions or ask questions. I really would like to know your thoughts.

I'll look for you at the next meeting and outing. If you are off fishing somewhere, send in pictures and written experiences. I would love to read them in our newsletter.

And if you're looking for a real inspiration be at Arrowhead in Fort Desoto Park on August 15th, 8:00 AM, and fish with our veterans as a part of Project Healing Waters. I promise it will be a blessing.

Never lose your sense of adventure

George

Call or text me at 727-423-8110 George Haseltine, Proud to serve as President, Suncoast Fly Fishers, 2016-2017-2018-2019

Club Meetings, Outings, and More

Thursday, August 16, Meeting

- **Capt. Ray Markham**, *Fly Fishing the Dog Days of August*
- Fly Swap – Bring three glass minnows. This is the fly that made one of our first SFF members famous. Yes, Carl Hanson. The three flies for the swap may be similar to Carl's (His tying process is on our [website](#).) or three different glass minnow patterns. You are welcome to participate even if you missed the July meeting sign-up. *Myron Hansen*
- Tying Bench. Layne Smith ties Ed Story's F-C Dart
- Register for the free raffle for a subscription to TAIL magazine.



Saturday, August 18, Urban Outing, Bay Vista Park, St. Pete

- Special prize for catching the longest ladyfish. Get a picture of it.
- Lunch at 11:45. It's the annual rib cook-off
- Location: 7000 4th St. S., St. Pete. Boat ramp.
- Park opens 30-minutes before sunrise

Thursday August 23, 6-8 pm, Tie outing flies with Bruce Evensen

- Meet up on the fourth Thursday of every month at Bruce's home and fly tying studio, 531 80th Avenue, St. Petersburg
- August fly: Squirrel Fly for bass and bream for September's outing on the Chassahowitzka River
- Bring these materials: Size 6 to 2 hook. Squirrel tail. Black chain eyes



Friday, August 24, Orvis "Down-The-Hatch" film festival at Bill Jackson's

- 4-9 pm. Tickets, \$5. Each ticket gets you a free beer.
- Benefits [Tampa Bay Watch](#)
- Sponsored by [Bill Jackson's](#), [Bar Fly](#), and [Sweetwater Brewery](#)

Thursday, September 20 Meeting

- Speaker: [Capt. Rick Grassett](#)
- Membership renewal month. Pay Karen Warfel at the meeting

Saturday, September 22 Outing

- Chassahowitzka River, Crystal River

Continued on next page

[Suncoast Fly Fishers](#)
[of St. Petersburg](#)



Monthly Meetings:

Third Thursday of every month (except December) at St. Pete's Walter Fuller Park Rec Center, 7891 26th Ave. N. 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.

Membership

Suncoast Fly Fishers currently has 129 members including 19 family members and 6 honorary members. Annual dues are \$15, payable in September.

FFI Charter Club.

Suncoast Fly Fishers is a charter member club of [Fly Fishers International \(FFI\)](#). A charter club of FFI is one in which all club members also join FFI as individual members. Annual dues are \$35. Seniors \$25. SFF is a member club of the [Florida Council](#) of FFI.

Continued...Club Meetings, Outings, and More

Saturday, Oct. 6 and Sunday Oct. 7, Florida Sportsman Expo at Tampa Fairgrounds

- SFF and TBFFC will staff fly tying and fly casting areas
- Fly tiers needed. See David Redd
- Fly fishing seminars
- Fly tying *Throwdown* competition with prizes
- Saturday hours 9-5; Sunday 10-4, admission \$8
- Newest fly gear, live music, craft beer,



Saturday, Oct. 13, Fall Casting Carnival

- Yeah, expect some carnival-like things to happen. You'll see. Rick Warfel has donned his thinking cap.

Thursday, October 18 meeting. "Tennis Shoe Tie-a-Thon"

- Tie-a-thon led by Bill Scarola
- Special challenge: tie a fly with something weird like, maybe, old sneakers. Bring your own materials, (including *febreze?*). Fly tyer who creates a fly using the most unusual materials wins a prize.



Saturday, October 20, MarineQuest, downtown St. Pete

- Help future fly fishers tie their first fly at FWC's research labs
- Location: Downtown St. Pete, 100 Eighth Avenue SE
- Fly tyers needed. See Bill Scarola at the meeting or email him

at...SCAR7765@gmail.com

Saturday, October 27, Carl Hanson *Lord of the Flies* outing

- SFF competes against Tampa Bay Fly Fishers on the Hillsborough River to honor Carl Hanson
- The fly fisher who catches the most fish – stumpknockers anyone? -- wins a trophy and takes charge of the Carl Hanson artwork for a year.
- Meet up for lunch at Rotary Riverfront Park west of Thonotosassa



Thursday, November 15 meeting"

Our speaker is **Tom Logan** of Tallahassee. A wildlife biologist, he is now Chairman of the board of directors of Fly Fishers International and First VP of the Florida council.

Looking Ahead

- Giving Back to Members – Members attending any of the next six regular meetings will have a chance to win a free subscription to **TAIL Fly Fishing Magazine**. *TAIL* is dedicated to saltwater fly fishing and outdoor living. A drawing will be held at each of the monthly meetings through February and a free subscription to *TAIL* will be given to one lucky member in good standing at each meeting. *TAIL* is published six times each year and an annual subscription normally cost \$48.
- East Lake Woodlands Country Club fly tying will be in the fall.
- Tampa Bay Watch is scheduling fall projects and will give SFF first choice for potential sponsorship.
- November 18: Annual *Big Gun Shootout* at Tampa's Picnic Island Park.
- December 15: Fall Casting Clinic led by Capt. Pat Damico and Dayle Mazzarella. Location TBD.
- March 30, 2019: Hog Roast and Silent Auction. See Rick Warfel.

Check for updates on the club **Calendar** online

Club News 'n' Notes

And the winner of the free guided fly fishing trip with Capt. Rick Grasset is Bill AuCoin, *On The Fly* editor. He's on a roll. Just in 2018 Bill has won the Perception Pescador kayak raffled at the 2018 Hog Roast and the Echo Fly Rod donated to Suncoast Fly Fishers by Capt. Pat Damico.

Looking for a committee to join? Please consider Alan Sewell's Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Committee. Suncoast Fly Fishers hold classes every Wednesday for rod building, fly tying and casting at Bay Pines Veterans Center. Volunteering is a great way of sharing our knowledge of fly fishing. A few hours teaching is better than a day of fishing. PHWFF is a non-profit organization in all 50 states. When a veteran ties their own fly, rigs up their custom built fly rod and catches a fish it is special moment in their life. We also arrange and staff outings for both fresh and saltwater fishing and kayaking. Email Alan at sewellalan@yahoo.com

Bob Burkard has added some neat features to the Suncoast Fly Fishers website. Check out the Dashboard on **Outings-Events** and the **quick links** to the flies of the month.

Rick Warfel will gather a few more member photographs for the membership directory. The board decided the directory would not be posted on the website. Access will be restricted to SFF members.

In the past when someone has joined Suncoast Fly Fishers he or she would get a copy of Don Coleman's booklet—*Wading the Saltwater Flats with a Fly Rod*. The board is discussing adding some items to the mix including, possibly, a loaded-with-flies fly box with the SFF logo, a SFF patch, and a fly-casting tutorial. Board member Quin Berry is on it.

Fly Gear for Sale or Swap

Woody Miller's Native Slayer 12 kayak

2017 Slayer, like new, paddled maybe 6 times. Extras included are custom anchor trolley's, rear rolling wheel for easy transport to the water and cover for front storage. \$750. Email Woody at clwpaddler@gmail.com



Bruce Evensen has fly gear and flies for sale.

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. Also, flies for sale. Call Bruce at 727-403-9010

Pat McRae steelhead diary discounted

President George Hazeltine received a nice email from the author's wife noting they had marked down the price of his book, *North Umpqua Chronicles, The Secret Diary of a Year on the River.* It was \$29.95. Now, \$8, including shipping. Contact Becky McRae at bmcr@centurytel.net.

Want to run an ad? Email Bill AuCoin at wmaucoin@verizon.net

We are Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg, Florida



Aims and Purposes

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.

Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) is a non-profit 501 3 organization

<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 Fly Fishers International (FFI). SFF is a member of the Florida Council of FFI.

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

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.

- What can the Suncoast Fly Fishers club do for you and for other members? Email your ideas to club president George Haseltine at ghh343@aol.com
- What can you do for the Suncoast Fly Fishers? For starters, join a committee. Can you help with the website? Newsletter? Hog Roast? Project Healing Waters? Run for a spot on the BOD. Speak to any officer at the meeting or email me , [George Haseltine, ghh343@aol.com](mailto:George.Haseltine.ghh343@aol.com)

Suncoast Fly Fishers

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

Club Officers

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

Board of Directors

Quin Berry -- David Redd -- Bill Scarola -- Bob Burkard -- Bruce Evensen -- Ryan Sollars --Cliff Nigh

Committees

Volunteers needed. Speak to any officer or director at the meeting

Casting Skills -- Pat Damico, MCI, Dayle

Mazzarella, MCI

FFI Liaison -- Pat Damico

Conservation -- Cliff Nigh

Fly Tying -- Myron Hansen

Membership -- Karen Warfel

New Members -- Rick Warfel

Webmaster -Open

Hog Roast -- Karen+Rick Warfel

Outings --Bob Burkard, Hilton Bruch, David Redd

Project Healing Waters -- Alan Sewell, Ted Rich, Dave Barson, Dave Redd, Terry Kirkpatrick

Outreach, shows -- David Redd, Bob Burkard

Raffles -- Dave Barson

Succession Planning -- Rick Warfel, Dick Miekka

Programs -- Board of Directors

Newsletter editor, public relations-- Bill AuCoin, Duane Mertz

Join. Renew. Application
www.suncoastflyfishers.com

Preview: August 18 Urban Outing at Bay Vista Park

Target: Ladyfish. Coffee @ 9:30. Ribs and sides @ 11:45.

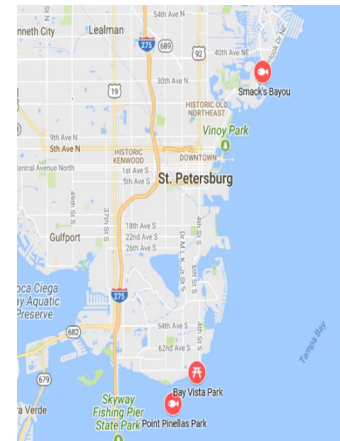


Bob Burkard, co-chairman, Outing Committee

By Bob Burkard

The fishing area for our next outing on August 18th (the Urban Outing) is now expanded to include the area from Smacks Bayou south to Pinellas Point Park.

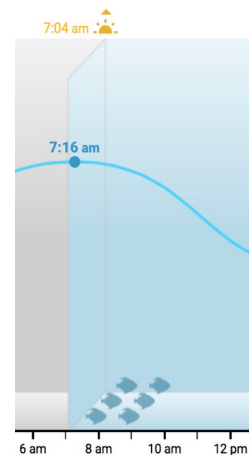
Historically, this has been a productive outing with members catching ladyfish, trout, snook, redfish, and mangrove snapper. We will have a nice outgoing tide for the morning and that should help. I don't like to brag, but I personally have caught a large number of pufferfish and catfish at our urban outings. I even have caught the "Junk" Grand Slam: Pufferfish, catfish, and lizardfish.



Our target fish is ladyfish This is the fly Bruce Evensen is recommending.



Smitty will tie the F-C Dart ladyfish fly at the August meeting.



We will have a nice outgoing tide for the morning and that should help. [Tides4Fishing](#)

We will meet at Bay Vista Park, 7000 4th St. S., St. Pete, for Lunch at 11:45 AM. Coffee starting at 9:30 AM. This outing will include our annual Rib Cook-off challenge. This is a good-natured contest with everyone getting the prize of eating great BBQ. Drinks and sides will be provided by Suncoast Fly Fishers.

BBQ Rules:

1. Entry must be BBQ / Smoked Baby-back or St. Louis Ribs
2. Entry must include a least 1 rack of ribs
3. Sauce is optional, whatever you prefer
4. Bring your cooked ribs to the picnic. We do not have grill, but we will have a "cooler" where we can place them to keep them warm.

Bob Burkard

2018 CLUB OUTING TOURNAMENT LEADERS

Species	Length	Leader to date	Outing (Month)
Longest sunfish	8"	Quin Berry & Tony Piazza	Walsingham Lake (February)
Longest black bass	18"	Mark Hays	Walsingham Lake (February)
Longest snook	15"	Bill AuCoin	Maximo Park (July)
Longest redfish			
Longest ladyfish	13"	Jack Cason	Fort DeSoto Park (May)
Longest seatrout	18.5"	David Redd	Pinellas Point (January)

Review: July Outing at Maximo Park



*Hilton Bruch, co-chair,
SFF Outing Committee*

Saturday, July 21

By Bob Burkard

Getting together each month to fish and “break bread” with our Suncoast Fly Fishers members has become a big part of my life, and is one of the great benefits gained by joining the Suncoast Fly Fishers. I feel very privileged to be chair of our Outings Committee which, in addition to me, is comprised of Hilton Bruch, Dave Redd, and Quin Berry. We enjoy planning and strategizing on where to fish and to meet for lunch, and are constantly discussing ways to provide opportunities for our members to catch more fish as they participate in the outing. As

always, the goals of Suncoast fly fishers are to provide enjoyment through fly fishing, comradery with our members, and great food to encourage participation.

A recent decision by this group was to expand the fishing zones of our local outings to see if we could increase the probability that our members would catch more fish. Our July outing was an example of this. We updated the fishing to include all areas “Anywhere within Sight of the Skyway Bridge”, and we met at Maximo park for lunch.

It was a very windy day and this expanded area gave the participants the option of finding places tucked away from the wind where they could relax and fish. This strategy did seem to pay off, as we had three people catching trout which was our target fish. Jack Cason caught a 17 Inch trout capturing the coveted monthly outing award.

Hilton supplied a great lunch to our group of 28 people that included a variety of Cajun main courses and sides. There was plenty of food, drink, and fishing stories to go around. As always with our group of Fly Fishers, some of the stories were actually true.... At least that is what I was told.

Bob



*Bob Burkard, co-chair,
SFF Outing Committee*



*Jack Cason with the
winning seatrout*



*Red beans with andouille sausage,
shrimp, and jambalaya.*

And do we love andouille?

Lunch was created by **Chiefs Creole Cafe**. The proprietor is Elihu Brayboy or just “Mr. B.” He would be very happy to know his food was well received. I sent him some pictures from the event.
901 22nd St S, St Petersburg, FL 33712, (727) 498-8979

Hilton

Snapshots from our Maximo Park Outing

Photos by Tom Gadacz, Jack Collins, and Bill AuCoin



Mangrove snapper. Jack Collins fished the cove at Indian Key Bird Sanctuary.



Squeeze the tail: Bill AuCoin's 15 going on 16-inch snook, also from the Indian Key Bird Sanctuary, hit a Dahlberg Diver.



Nice shorts, Jack! Jack Collins and Tom Trukenbrod chat it up.



Duane Mertz (l). Joe Corr, Jack Collins, Andy Constantinou



While April Turpen evaluates the options, Hilton Bruch makes his decision.

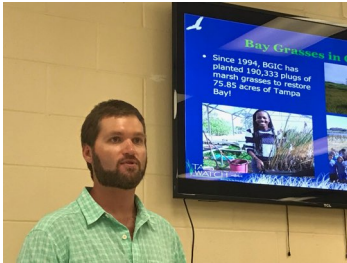


Fruit salad looks good. Barry Salzman and Joe Corr check it out.



It was cool in the shade with a breeze from the water. Another nice summer day in St Pete.

July Club Meeting: Tampa Bay Watch is on the job



Andy Lykens of Tampa Bay Watch

At the July meeting of Suncoast Fly Fishers, Andy Lykens, environmental scientist with Tampa Bay Watch, brought members up to date on all of TBW's programs to help keep the bay healthy.

TBW is hitting all the right buttons –seagrasses, oysters, shoreline vegetation – and the best of all may be the way TBW enlists volunteers to contribute thousands of hours to get the work done. Plus, Tampa Bay Watch is teaching and motivating the next generation to be lifelong stewards of Tampa Bay with field trips, summer camps, kayak eco-tours, and classroom boat excursions.

There's a lot of work to do: Tampa Bay is Florida's largest open water estuary encompassing nearly 400 square miles. More than 100 tributaries drain into the bay. And its surrounded by lots of people, lots of buildings, lots of fertilizer and wastewater runoff, dredging for shipping channels and more.

Lykens talked us through the slides and described all of the projects. Here are just some of the ways TBW is helping Tampa Bay get cleaner and clearer.

- Community seagrass planting.
- Building and installing oyster domes. Oysters are filter feeders. The more the clearer.
- Marine debris removal.
- Citizen awareness of storm-water runoff.
- Stabilizing shorelines with vegetation. TBW even arranges for some schools to maintain their own plant nurseries. Participating schools in St. Petersburg include Admiral Farragut Academy, Canterbury School of Florida, Lakewood High, and Shorecrest Preparatory.
- Monofilament fishing line recovery and recycling. TBW partners with Berkeley on that.
- Derelict crab trap removal

These programs are having a huge impact for the good. Tampa Bay seagrasses are back to 1950 levels.

Suncoast Fly Fishers is now considering more ways members can pull together to help Tampa Bay Watch do even more to make our fishing water healthier. And to catch more fish on the fly, of course.



Fly of the month -- All eyes were on Layne Smith at the July meeting as he tied his finger mullet fly, a scaled-down version of his MirrOlure fly.

Dave Barson, is that you?



Dave and Ellen Barson met Lefty Kreh(l) at a fly fishing show in Hershey, Pennsylvania in 1991.

Tying Bench – Smitty Ties Ed Story’s F-C Dart



This fly was originated by Ed Story of Feather-Craft. He often stopped by Carl Hanson’s on Tuesday night when he came to the Gulf Coast on fishing trips. It is a wingless Glass Minnow to surf-search for ladyfish. He designed this fly without a wing, so that by lowering the rod tip, the fly would sink and swim backwards. Its short Marabou tail and longer Flashabou tail strands simply folds over the fly body, as the fly is moved backwards by the lowering of the rod tip. On lifting the rod tip, the fly can again be stripped forward without the tail becoming tangled.

Materials:

Hook: TMC 9394 size 4-2 (size 2 shown) or Mustad 34011
Thread: Danville Flatwaxed Nylon in white or grey
Tail: Sparse white marabou extending 1” behind hook bend
Flash: 15 strands of Flashabou (Salt & Pepper) extending 1½” behind hook bend
Under-body: Size wide Silver Mylar Tinsel
Over-body: F-C Clear Wide-Lace material or substitute wide D-rib in clear
Head: A build-up of tying thread, large enough to add decal eyes
Eyes: Decal eyes in white, yellow, red, or gold in size small
Gills: Red Flatwaxed Nylon wrapped at rear of fly head just behind eyes
Overcoat: UV Resin, SHHAN or your favorite head cement

Tying Sequence:

1. Attach your thread in at the bend of the hook and secure with a few half hitches. Tie in a sparse white Marabou tail 1” long. Tie in 15 strands of Salt & Pepper Flashabou to extend 1½” backward from hook bend. Tie in a strand of silver Mylar Tinsel about 5’ or so long and let hang. Next tie in a 6” strand of the clear F-C clear Wide-Lace by first prepping it by cutting one end in a long pointed taper (makes it easier to tie in)
2. With everything tied in at the bend, use the tying thread to build up and taper the area in front the tie in spot so there is no “bulge” showing from the tail material. Taper and run your thread up the hook shank in close wraps to just behind the hook eye. Wrap the Mylar Tinsel forward in overlapping turns to the waiting thread. This tinsel will later show through the clear lace to create the “silver sides” of the Glass Minnow.
3. Wrap the Wide-Lace up the hook shank in close touching wraps, forming the Glass Minnow body. On reaching the tying thread, tie in the Wide-Lace with a number of wraps to secure it. Cut off excess lace. Continue to wrap thread over lace forming a fly head large enough to accept small-size decal eye. (The thread “fly head” can be carefully flattened on the sides using smooth flat-jaw bench pliers).
4. Place decal eyes on either side of fly head. Overcoat eyes with a thin coat of Resin and cure. With red thread, make a number of thread wraps behind eyes to represent gills. Overcoat these thread wraps as well as the eyes with a build-up of resin to create a nice head. Cure with UV Light (or set flies outside and let the sun cure them for you).

Smitty

(Ed Story had a technique for catching ladyfish --“strolling the surfline.” See Smitty’s report on page 19)

Tying Bench –Bruce’s Evensen’s take on the Gartside Gurgler

Bruce Evensen led fly tiers with the step-by-steps for the ever popular Gartside Gurgler at his home/fly studio on July 26. Bill Scarola took notes (and a picture of his flies) and submitted the materials and tying sequence. Thanks, Bill

Materials

Hook: Size 1 or 1/0 Stinger

Tail: Color of choice. Pick any one – bucktail, Steve Farrar, Craft Fur, or EP Fibers.

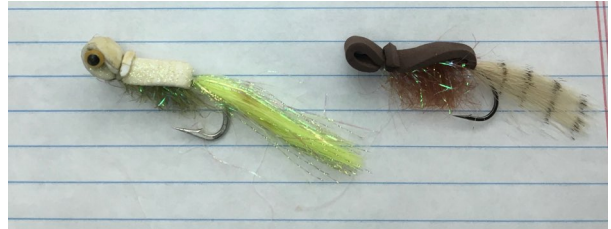
Underbody: Chenille to match the color of the tail.

Body: Foam, color of choice

Flash: Add flash if not using Steve Ferrar, as it has its own flash

Eyes: Stick-on, or bubble eyes with stems. Or Magic Marker.

Thread: Flat wax color to match the foam



Tying Sequence

Wrap thread from hook eye to bend.

Tie-in tail material just in front of hook point on shaft.

Tie in foam at end of tail material so foam hangs backward over hook end. Note that it'll be pulled forward and later secured just behind the hook eye. Foam should be cut into strips about ¼" to 3/8" wide, and about 2" long depending on hook size.

Add flash if desired

Now, tie in chenille. Tie it off in front of the foam at the top of the tail material. Add glue here to hold material in place then bring thread forward toward hook eye. Leave a ¼" space behind the hook eye to tie off the foam. Wrap chenille forward, tie it off, and add a dab of glue

Bring Foam forward leaving a hump over chenille material, place a few thread wraps to anchor form ahead of Chenille then bend foam back on itself to form small bubble over hook eye and tie off as pictured. Add eyes, and glue in or color sides of the head of the foam red and or black to simulate eyes. Also don't forget to add glue to thread wraps that form head!

Option: Add stripes to tail material with magic marker...keep it an odd number of stripes, 5 or 7 depending on length of tail.

Bill

Bill Scarola and Mike Simmons Fish Lac La Croix in Ontario



Bill Scarola with a nice smallmouth bass on the Zups Resort trip in Canada.

Here are some pictures from our trip to ZUPS Fishing Resort on Lac La Croix in Ontario organized by SFF member Mike Simmons. His Grandson Elijah joined us.

We fished out of a brand new Lund powered by a 40 hp Yamaha and we all caught northern pike and smallmouth bass. I even caught a pike off the boat dock. My biggest was 26-inches weighting 4.5 pounds.



Nice, Bill, but mine is bigger, said Mike Simmons.

Mike and Elijah caught bigger ones. One was 14 pounds. One of Mike's buddies at Zups caught an 8-pound smallie.

Bill



Bill Scarola, Mike Simmons and Elijah Simmons caught their share of small mouth bass and northern pike at Zups Resort in Canada.



Scarola and one of many pike they caught on his August trip to Canada.

Fly Fishers International at the World's Largest Fly Fishing/Sportfishing Trade Show

By Tom Logan, Chairman of the Board, Fly Fishers International

By Tom Gadacz, President, Florida Council, Fly Fishers International

ICAST, short for International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades, is the world's largest sportfishing trade show. It's a summer showcase for the latest innovations in fishing gear, accessories and apparel, much of it gear that consumers will see in fishing shops in 2019.

American Sportfishing Association (ASA) is the organization behind ICAST. American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA) partners with ASA and puts on the fly fishing portion, called IFTD, short for International Fly Tackle Dealers. ICAST/IFTD is an annual event and for the last three years it has been held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. Next year, the fly fishing part of the show will be held in Denver.

This year's show was July 10 -13 and more than 600 exhibitors occupied the entire South Course Exhibit Hall. The majority of exhibitors displayed conventional tackle and accessories. Fly fishing exhibitors were located in the northeast area of the Hall around two water casting pools. Related activities included fly tying and casting competitions, seminars on many aspects of fly fishing and meetings of various industries and recreational organizations. The goal of all participants was to encourage more public participation in fishing and balance this with sound resource management of our public lands, waters and fisheries.

This is the third year for FFI to participate in the event. Our FFI exhibit was located at the end of one of the casting pools, and many visited the booth to talk about FFI programs. Some were already FFI members and a few joined as new FFI members. Topics of discussion typically were of how other organizations might collaborate with FFI on conservation and education programs, how to improve membership recruitment and retention, how to assist with fly tying and casting instruction for Boy Scouts of America, and how to prepare for FFI's Casting Instructor Certification programs.

The FFI Exhibit this year was a new design that consisted of three tall panels of information and great photos and flanked with two sails, one that displayed our new logo boldly and the other our new Learning Center.



Fly Fishers International had a big presence at the fly fishing trade in Orlando. From left, Tom Logan, Rick Warfel, Karen Warfel, Craig Smothers, Michael Schweit, FFI Director, and Tom Gadacz. Not shown: Quin Berry, board of directors, Suncoast Fly Fishers.

Many new brochures were displayed on topics that included safe handling of fishes, conservation and membership. One of the most popular items were copies of our most recent *Flyfisher* magazine. Staffing of the booth were Tom Logan, Chairman of the FFI Board of Directors; Michael Schweit, member of FFI Board of Directors; Rick Warfel, secretary FFI Florida Council; Karen Warfel, treasurer of Suncoast Fly Fishers; Craig Smothers, FFI Florida Council member; Quin Berry, member of Suncoast Fly Fishers; and Tom Gadacz, President of FFI Florida Council and a Suncoast Fly Fishers member

Casting with Kids at Suncoast Youth Conservation Center



By Tom Gadacz, President, Florida Council of Fly Fishers International

On June 27 Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) helped young fly fishers learn to cast a fly rod at Suncoast Youth Conservation Center in Apollo Beach. This was our second year at the facility which is

formally known as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network (FWC-FYCCN). Partners include TECO and the Florida Aquarium



Casting a real fly rod, weather permitting

Kathy Guindon heads the staff at the facility and has initiated summer youth saltwater fishing camps. We had the opportunity to meet 18 youths aged 12-14.



Paint Brush Drill

The weather was threatening that Wednesday morning. After a discussion about fly casting, the differences between fly and spin casting, and showing some fresh and salt water flies used for casting, we met under the pavilion and practiced the paint brush drill. This drill is useful in learning the casting stroke. The weather remained good so we assembled in a grassy area for casting with 8'6" 4 weight Redington Crosswater Youth Combo rods and reels.

We managed about an hour of casting to hula hoops and then moved inside because of a lightening alert. A short video on fly casting and loop formation by Mel Krieger concluded the session. All participants received the SFF Certificate of Completion for the Junior Training Clinic for Fly Casting.



Suncoast Fly Fishers Rick Warfel (l) and David Redd with Kathy Guindon, director of FWC's Youth Conservation Center in Apollo Beach.

The casting session was staffed by SFF members, Rick Warfel (SFF vice president) and members David Redd (SFF Board member), and Tom Gadacz



Taking a look at saltwater flies

Suncoast Fly Fishers thanks Kathy Guindon, Director, and her staff for their help. We had a great time and were impressed with the number of young ladies interested in fishing and conservation.

Tom

Future Fly Fishers at E.G. Simmons Park in Ruskin

*By Tom Gadacz
President, FFI Florida Council
Member, Suncoast Fly Fishers*

June 29, 2018

The E. G. Simmons Regional Park Fish Camp in Ruskin, Florida offers a two week experience learning fishing skills to campers. Suncoast Fly Fishers, a FFI Charter Club and member of the Florida Council, participates in the program by providing fly casting instructions to youths of the older age group, 12 to 15 years of age. We had 32 anglers at this session and over the past five years the number of girls in each class has increased.



The youth fly casting sessions were staffed by SFF members Rick Warfel, SFF Vice-president; David Redd, Bill Scarola, and Tom Gadacz. We wish to thank E.G Simmons Director Matt Wynn and staff members Dan, Audrey, Jesse, and Amanda for their assistance.



Most of the time is spent fly casting. We have a brief classroom session explaining fly fishing equipment and techniques and showing them different kinds of flies. The kids are paired up and help each other. The casting stroke is demonstrated using the paint brush drill. They dip a paint brush in a bowl of water and, starting at ear level and with as little wrist movement as possible, they splash their partner who is 6 to 8 feet in front to them.

The kids practice the paint brush drill for 30 minutes.

The instructors move among each pair giving praise and a few instructions. Then they cast with 5 weight 8' 6" fly rods. They cast to Hula hoop targets 30 to 35 feet away. The non-casting partner observes and reinforces the elements of the casting stroke. Avoiding rotation of the wrist is the greatest initial challenge.

We concluded the session reviewing a video on the techniques of the casting stroke and casting loop. Every youth received a SFF Certificate of Completion of having completed the Junior Training for Fly Casting.

We had another fly casting session at E. G. Simmons Park on July 24 with 22 youths. The weather was a bit threatening but cleared by 1 pm for our 2-hour session. They also did well acquiring basic fly casting skills and received the SFF Certificate as a Junior Training for Fly Casting.



Jimmié Carroll: Brookies, brown trout in West Virginia

I was at Green Bank, West Virginia for an astrophysicist conference this month for a week. (How about those two neutron Star Galaxy collisions!)

I fished for and caught brook trout in every stream again. It's high altitude and cold water.

Last weekend I fished with daughter Jennifer in western NC ... and she caught a nice German Brown. I found a new, small stream with Brookies as well.

Tough fishing but the reward is worth it, and having my daughter "skunk" me?

Priceless.



Jimmié



*Editor's note: Suncoast Fly Fisher Jimmié "O'Dell" Carroll is one of West Virginia's "Rocket Boys." He and his school buddies built and launched small rockets back in the 1950s after Russia launched Sputnik. One of his friends, Homer Hickam, wrote a book about it and it later was made into a movie - **October Sky**.*

Dennis Marquis: Fly fishing from a RecVee

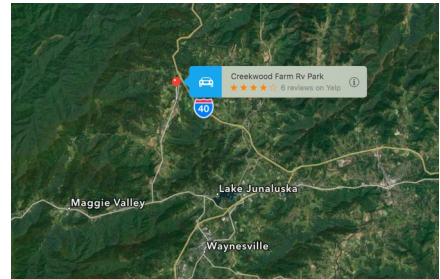


July took Cindy and me through the Blue Ridge and Smokey Mountains by way of Virginia, North Carolina and then Tennessee.

We finally got to use and rely on the “air brakes” in the bus. One tap on the pedal and the rig entered into a controlled deceleration. It was nice and I quickly got rid of the “white knuckle” syndrome. I now have more confidence that I can navigate the big western mountains in this 41-foot motor coach. The 450 HP Cummins diesel engine did a nice job pushing us up and over every mountain.

The Creekwood Farm RV Park is located in the Blue Ridge Mountains on a heritage trout stream known as Jonathan Creek, where I proudly landed my first brownie on a pheasant tail midge dropper.

In the Smokey's I was able to fish the national park where it has not been stocked for decades and is therefore full of very smart trout. The crew at Little River Outfitters in Townsend claims that the Smokey Mountain trout streams are some of the most technically challenging in the country. They also warned that it isn't uncommon to come across copperheads and timber rattlers along the streams. It was here I landed my first rainbow on the Middle Prong Little River near Tremont using a Green Weenie dropper.



Apple Maps

“I have been fishing with my new TFO Mangrove 6-weight rod with a beautiful burl wood handle made by Alan Sewell who, as usual, did a very nice job.”

Wow! I felt like a fish out of water. With no trout fishing experience I read, watched YouTube videos, talked to some of you and visited fly shops. I had to navigate dry flies, streamers, nymphs and midges. I needed new tackle like floatant, split shot and lightweight leader and tippet. I learned about “droppers,” high sticking, and mending.

Boy, do I have plenty to learn. As an example, it literally took me 20 minutes to tie the first dry fly-dropper rig. For me it was nearly impossible to thread 5x tippet through the eye of the flies I was using, some smaller than my pinky fingernail. Despite all of this, I can see why trout fishing is fun and I plan to educate myself and focus on it as we continue our travels.

Dennis



Next month: Heading North

Tampa Bay Times : Captain's Corner

Capt. Pat Damico: Don't forget about fishing freshwater ponds



Saltwater gets all of our attention, but when driving to and from work or visiting a friend, keep an eye out for a pond that looks fishy. There are many productive ponds that have bass and panfish, some even have snook and baby tarpon, both of which adapt well to freshwater. You're okay to fish on public land, but if privately owned, seek permission. Keep a rod rigged in the vehicle. An SUV can accommodate a fully rigged fly rod, or you can have it in two sections in a protective case in the trunk. Park your car in a safe place and observe the pond's surface for activity. A small pair of binoculars is helpful. Most fish will be around structure, trees, floating plants, docks, bridges or an aerator. On a sunny day, shade is the key. In the absence of structure, cast close to shore where most food sources such as hoppers, crickets, ants, beetles and baitfish are plentiful. Splashes will give away feeding activity. A 4- or 5-weight fly rod with a floating weight-forward line using a 7-foot leader tapered to 8-pound test will handle easily and allow you to find if any fish are present. Use flies that imitate small baitfish and terrestrials or use a white or yellow popper in sizes 6-8 and cover water quickly. If you find fish too small for your equipment or too large, adjust gear to be better prepared on your return visit.

Fly fisherman Pat Damico charts lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at captpatdamico.com or (727) 504-8649. *Fly fisherman Pat Damico runs charters in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at captpatdamico.com and (727) 504-8649.*

Layne Smith – Strolling the Surf-Line with Ed Story

“Strolling” the surf is a method Ed Story began years ago to attract ladyfish. He would wade the surf parallel to the beach in the clear waters of the Gulf.

He would wade with the rod over his shoulder, and 35 to 40 feet of line and leader out. As he waded, the sand would swirl a bit forming a “chum-line”. First to follow were small baitfish along the surf. Next in line would be the ladyfish and they would hit the Surf Dart.

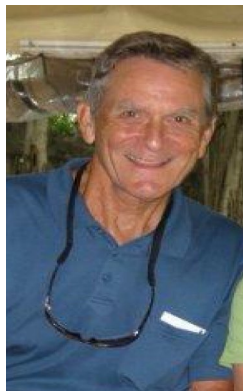
After releasing the first ladyfish, he would cast back to the area behind him. Oftentimes he would instantly pick up another ladyfish or some other “minnow-chaser”!

Just make sure if you try this method DO THE STINGRAY SHUFFLE.

Smitty



Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover



Fly fishing brands want their own dealer show. AFFTA, the trade association for fly fishing companies, is separating its IFTD show from the ICAST sportfishing show. Is this a good decision? ([Angling Trade](#))

Bigly. Here are the winners at the new fly gear product showcase voted by media at the ICAST/IFTD show in Orlando in July. ([AFFTA](#))

Carp is an invasive species. So what? Remember the fly fisher who caught a carp near the National Mall when the Tidal Basin flooded? Fly fishers have been talking about it and weighing in on social media and online forums. Here's the question: "Carp are now part of this country's identity as a nation of fly fishers, and the question is, do we embrace it, or continue to ignore it?" ([Fly Fisherman](#))

Where can we fly fish for carp in Florida? Correct me if I'm wrong but it seems they are widely distributed throughout North America but not so much in Florida. Carp are found naturally only in the Apalachicola River and the Ochlockonee River. ([Bass Online](#))

What's it all about, Algae? Well, it's just about everywhere in Lake Okeechobee. Check out these satellite images. ([TC Palm](#))

Now algae is seeking out its enemies. Politicians are trying to get their heads around this issue. Meanwhile, citizens are saying *Do Something!* H/T Jon Hoegstrom. ([Florida Sportsman](#))

Hey, hey. A new fly fishing magazine. Check out the online blog here. H/T. Rick Warfel. ([Tail](#))

If your fly keeps grabbing seagrass, here's a solution. H/T Pat Damico. ([You Tube](#))

Finders-keepers, losers-weepers. Seems like a good idea to me: Put your name on your kayak. ([The Fishing Wire](#))

Well, I'm kinda glad he didn't. A conversation with author/ angler Tom McGuane: *The writer sometimes wonders whether he should have spent more time outdoors and less time writing.* ([Angler's Journal](#))

Federal Recreation Map. You can download this new brochure which shows all recreation lands and waters in the U.S. ([The Fishing Wire](#))

A special club outing, perhaps? This is about a trout that is as long as your whole body. I don't think my 12-weight can manage this one. ([Orvis Fly Fishing](#))

Hey, let's do a tie-a-thon meeting and tie the flip-flop fly. Giant trevally in the Seychelles eat birds and you can match-the-hatch with a flip flop. Watch. ([You Tube](#))

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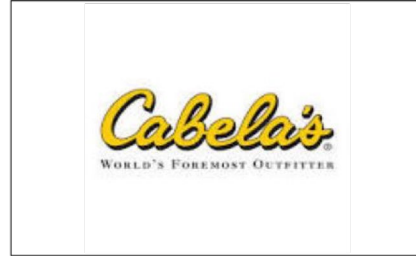
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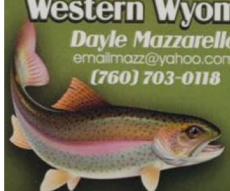


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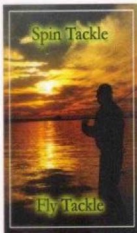
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