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



October Tie-a-Thon. P-8



October Outing. P 10



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And the Oscar goes to... P 21



Sunrise in Xcalak. P 22



Smítty's Salt 'n' Pepper. P 12



Montauk Stripers. P19



SFF President Letter - November 2018

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. We at Suncoast Fly Fishers mean it!

November is Veterans Day Month.

We put actions to our words. We sponsor a **Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Program** at the Bay Pines Veterans location and encourage the veterans to join us at all of our functions.

Alan Sewell, Ted Rich, Dave Barson, Tom Gadacz and others provide a hands-on approach to fly fishing, tying and rod building. They help provide the benefits fly fishing brings in the way of peace of mind and a sense of accomplishment.

Alan travels at his own expense to the Organization meetings around the state.

Alan is looking for volunteers. I guarantee a rewarding experience, especially if you see someone catch their first fish on a fly and refuse to stop for lunch.

At our last Board Meeting, we heard from John DiBella and Court Doughit of "**Operation Home Shores**." They were introduced to us by Quin Berry. Thank you, Quin. See more info on this on Page 5.

Our veterans don't need our sympathy; they just deserve an opportunity to experience this awesome art of fly fishing to maybe give life a different focus. They have all proven themselves to be worthy.

Fly Fishers International (We are a Charter Club) provides a lot of support to the PHWFF Program. Check it out at projecthealingwaters.org. This month **Tom Logan**, 1st Vice President Florida Council, Chairman of the FFI National Board, will be speaking to us. Please come welcome him. FFI benefits us in several ways. flyfishersinternational.org.

A special thanks to Bill Scarola and those of you who participated in our Tie-a-thon in October. Bob Morrison judged the flies for us. Thank you, Bob, it was good to see you.

Remember that we have no general meeting in December, but we will be looking for you at Fort Desoto on December 8th for the Don Coleman outing and our annual chili cook off.

Never lose your sense of Adventure. Be thankful, participate when you can.

George

George Haseltine, SFF President 2016-19, 727-423-8110 Cell & Text, ghh343@aol.com

MY PROMISE TO PAUL SEQUIRA

Recently you passed from these shores to fish a distant shore, so I say farewell; not in our midst, but definitely not forgotten. I promise to maintain, guard, use and cherish the fly rod that you custom-built and that I got for a \$100 bargain at one of our auctions. I promise to read your description of fly fishing the Everglades Canals each year before the Club goes to fish there. I promise to remind our members (and thank you) for the great influence you had on us all.

George

George Haseltine, SFF President 2016-19

Long time member Paul Sequira died October 1.

Meetings, Outings, & More

Monday, Nov. 12 SFF night at Bruce Evensen's Home Studio, 531 80th Avenue N., St. Pete

- Bruce is no longer tying on Thursdays, but he will be teaching at his home studio every Monday.
- The second Monday of the month is open to all but especially for SFF members to tie a flip to use at that month's club outing. Bruce will teach flies on other Mondays, too, and they are open to everyone who wants to come.
- Everybody is welcome. It's free. Bring a vise, tools and materials.
- You can buy materials for each month's fly at St. Pete's Fishing Outfitters. SFF member Cliff Nigh is the Fly Shop Manager. Location: 34th St. and 35th Avenue. N.
- There will no classes in December.

Monday, November 12, Midweek outing, Cypress Point Park, Tampa

- Meet at 10 am and fish until noon. lunch. Go where they go.
- For more info email Bill Scarola at SCAR7765@gmail.com

Thursday, November 15 meeting"



Tom Logan

- Our speaker is Tom Logan of Tallahassee. A wildlife biologist, Tom is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Fly Fishers International and First VP of the Florida Council.
- Drawing for a free trip with Capt. Ray Markham. All current members are eligible. Have you renewed your club membership for 2019? See Karen Warfel.
- Members will vote to authorize funds to renew the room rental agreement at Walter Fuller Park.
- Buy raffle tickets. One lucky person gets a free subscription to Tail magazine.

Saturday, November 17, Outing, Cypress Point Park in Tampa

- The target fish is spotted seatrout.
- Lunch is at noon at the park pavilion.
- All saltwater categories are open in the annual tournament. See the current leader list on page 11.

Sunday, November 18, Big Gun Shoot-Out, Picnic Island Park

- Meet up before 9 am.
- Individual and three-person teams compete for distance and accuracy. See page 6.
- Free lunch hosted by Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club.

Meetings, Outings, & More

Saturday, December 8, Don Coleman Open Outing, Fort DeSoto Park

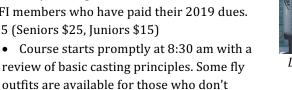
- Note: The outing date is earlier in the month than usual so it's not too close to the Christmas holiday
- Outing details at the November meeting. All area fly club members are invited to join SFF for lunch.

Saturday, December 15, Fall Casting Clinic, Tampa's Picnic Island Park, Shelter 611

- Courses led by FFI Master Casting Instructors Pat Damico and Dayle Mazzarella with assistance by other fly casting instructors.
- Registration at 8 am. Free to FFI members who have paid their 2019 dues. (You can join FFI on site for \$35 (Seniors \$25, Juniors \$15)



Pat Damico





Dayle Mazzarella

- Bring your gear to be checked for balance and for your use. Leader material is available.
- Morning drills: Pick-Up and Lay-Down, False Casting, Feeding Line, Roll Cast, Roll Cast to Pick Up and Feed. Each drill will have an advanced challenge for those pushing their limits. Introduction to the

FFI Casting Instructor Program, Saltwater Quick Casting, Double-Haul, Advanced Distance Casting, **Accuracy and Mending**

have one. Courses continue until 3 pm.

- 1:00 Lunch provided by Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club
- Afternoon drills: Fun Casting Drills One-legged casting (Keep the boat from rocking), Accuracy -(Under mangrove and docks, and trout fishing), Distance - (Get that Redfish!), Quick casting - (Get that bonefish!)

No meeting in December Don Coleman Open Outing is at Fort DeSoto Park on December 8 No fly tying at Evensen's home studio in December

Looking Ahead into 2019

- January 17 meeting is our annual Trash 'n' Treasures meeting. Bring gear to donate for the auction.
- January 19 outing is at Weedon Island Preserve.
- February 21 meeting features member Robert Fisher: "Motorcycling and Fly Fishing."
- February 23 outing is on Lake Walsingham.
- East Lake Woodlands Country Club fly tying will be February 24.
- March 30, 2019: Hog Roast and Silent Auction. See Rick Warfel.

Check for updates on the club's online Calendar

Suncoast Fly Fisher News 'n' Notes

SFF Members Only Guided Trip Give Away

By Rick Warfel

Two things that our club wants to be able to do is to give back to members and to get folks fishing! To this end we are going to periodically raffle off a guided fishing trip to one of our lucky members. The club will pay for a half day of guided fishing for one or two anglers and will include \$50 towards the gratuity. The winning entry can invite a fishing partner of their choice. The winner can coordinate with the guide to extend the trip at their own expense. An additional gratuity would be appropriate if you have a good experience. There is no cost to enter but entrants must be a club member in good standing at the time of the drawing. In order to identify members that are interested in participating you must register to enter. If you registered for a previous guided trip raffle, we will keep you registered unless you request us to remove you from the list. Our next guide will be Capt. Ray Markham. The drawing will be held at the November member meeting. Registration is easy. Complete the form below and bring it to the next club sponsored event, mail it to our PO Box, sign up at a club meeting or contact Rick Warfel at rh_warfel@yahoo.com or by phone/text at 813-523-0692.

SFF <u>Members Only</u> Guided Trip Give Away Registration Form November 15, 2018 Drawing
Name
Phone
Winner is entitled to ½ day guided trip for 1 or 2 anglers. Voucher expires 90 days from the time of the drawing. You do not need to be present to win. Suncoast Fly Fishers, P. O. Box 40821, St. Petersburg, FL 33743



Alan Sewell, chairman of the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing committee

Project Healing Waters Committee Report

Committee Chairman Alan Sewell reports that Suncoast Fly Fishers will be helping vets build rods and tie flies every Wednesday from Noon to 3:30. Meet up at Building 22, second floor craft room. Alan said SFF will receive 10 free rod building kits from Pacific Bay International for the national rod building competition. Pacbay will judge the contest. Each participant will also receive a rod case and reel combo just for entering this event.

Operation Home Shores, our ally for helping wounded vets.

At the November board meeting, John DiBella and Court Doughit of **Operation Home Shores** requested SFF help provide 6 rotary tying vises plus tying tools. These will be used for fly-tying classes that Home Shores provides to wounded veterans. Their website is Homeshores.org. The board approved gifting \$400 to Operation Home Shores to purchase Peak brand rotary vises plus tying tools at a substantial discount for teaching wounded military veterans. The check will be made payable to the vendor, Hook and Hackle Co.

Suncoast Fly Fisher News 'n' Notes

Big Gun Shootout at Picnic Island Park, Nov. 18.

Experts and beginners alike are invited to test their fly casting skills at the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club's annual Big Gun Shoot-Out Sunday, November 18 at Tampa's Picnic Island Park. Individuals and teams of three are welcome Plaques will be awarded for highest scoring individual, highest scoring teams, and the "Big Gun," the overall distance casting champion.

Contestants will participate in competition stations that mimic the challenges of fly fishing, such as casting under the mangroves, into a cup of water, or through a hoop suspended a few feet off the ground. Come out and give it a try – you'll be hooked!

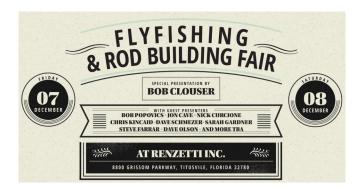
The competition will run from 9 am - 12 pm. There is NO entry fee, and lunch will be provided to all contestants. You may use your own rod for all competition stations except the Big Gun distance contest. Volunteers also are needed to help set up the course and score contestants.



Apple Maps

Renzetti Fair, Dec. 7-8

Join us Dec 7th and Dec 8th as some of the most experienced fly tyers, fly fishermen and rod builders come together one more time to teach, promote, inspire and give back to the fly fishing industry and environment. Renzettti Fair features many great programs scheduled for both days at the factory as well as off site, including a Ladies Fly Fishing School with Capt. Sarah Gardner, a Full Day Fly Fishing School with Bob Clouser and Jon Cave, A VIP Evening with the Legends Reception, A Remembrance of our dear friend Lefty Kreh, factory tours and much more, including the incredible \$1 Raffle for a Custom Gheenoe or a Master Vise with a Deluxe Pedestal Base.



Our staff organized this event and selected 2 non-profit organizations to benefit from this event. For our 6th FF&RF we selected Merritt Island Wildlife Educational Building and Bullsugar.org. Both organization are making a difference in our state. We hope you will join us and share this email and flyers with your friends. Help us spread the word and raise money for two great organizations and are truly making a difference in our world.

Sincerely

Andy and Lily Renzetti

Fly Gear for Sale or Swap

Bill Scarola is selling his Vibe Kayak. Email him at poppyscar@gmail.com

VIBE KAYAK, SEA GHOST 110 model.11' length, 34" width. 450 lb. capacity. Foot rudder controlled steering system, 10 scupper holes with plugs. Vibe paddle. Kayak has a large front hatch and a rear hatch. Also included: bungee tie down, two built in rod holders, center console hatch, with drink holder. Adjustable seat. \$800 or best offer.

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

Rods and reels by non-member Kathy Webber, submitted by Dick Miekka

Dick writes, "I received an e-mail from a woman wanting to sell her husband's fly-fishing equipment. I have looked up the approximate value of the various items and included the values in parentheses." Make your best offer on each item to Kathy Webber, 727-372-4757

- Fenwick Voyager SF74-4 Feralite 7 ft, 3.9 oz. (probably a spin-fly 6 wt. rod, available on E-Bay for \$99.99)
- Orvis 4 pc 9 ft. 5-wt Trident TLS Midflex, with 2 Battenkill reels (rod on E-Bay \$400; reels about \$100 each)
- Two Abel reels, TR1 and TR2, never used, with spare spools. (about \$475 per reel and \$160 per spool)
- Winston 9'6" 5 pc rod, serial #57734, never used. (Not sure of weight, Original price \$595 according to owner)

Jack Cason is selling his sit-on-top kayak. It's a deal. Call him at 727-864-7444

Just a few months ago Jack bought a 10-foot Perception Pescador (red tiger camo color) kayak with all the trimmings. He used it once. It comes with the Angler's Package including a paddle leash, anchor and anchor trolley, rod holder and more. Also, a high-end inflatable life jacket. It cost more than \$850. Yours for \$650.

Bruce Evensen made these beautiful items himself. Call him at 727-403-9010. Also, see much more of his fine art on "Poppa Bruces Flies" pages on

Etsy....https://www.etsy.com/shop/poppabrucesflies

- Hook or eyes holder hand made by Bruce Evensen, \$28.00
- Thread holder with one fly holder by Bruce Evensen, \$9.00
- Fly tying desk and tool holder, \$50.00
- Fly tying desk and tool holder made by Bruce 2ftx2ft., \$85.00
- Epoxy glue holder hand-made by Bruce Evensen, \$24.00



Hand-made hook and eye holder

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

October Meeting - Tie-a-Thon and More



Bill Scarola, standing, provided orange and black Halloween fibers and members were instructed to tie a fly with them. Bob Morrison, right, was the judge. The winner? James Davis.



Alan Sewell, second from left, brought vises and materials and helped members and guests tie.



Davis builds his winning Halloween fly



Smitty works his magic.



Halloween gurglers tied by Layne Smith and James Davis. Hey fishy, fishy, be very afraid.

We are Suncoast Fly Fishers of St. Petersburg, Florida



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
Public relations - Bill AuCoin

On The Fly

Bill AuCoin, editor; Duane Mertz

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 50I 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 22^{nd} Avenue N turn North on 72^{nd} St. N. Turn left (South) on 26^{th} 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

Join. Renew. Application www.suncoastflyfishers.com

Review: October Carl Hanson Outing, Hillsborough River



Bob Burkard, cochaiman, Outing Committee

By David Redd

The morning was pleasantly cool, the wind was light and there was a slight touch of fall in the air. This was the first time for me fishing the Hillsborough river near Temple Terrace and I was amazed at how picturesque it was. Old Florida as I remembered it fishing rivers with my father in north Florida. Those who turned out for the outing seemed to have an enjoyable time. Mark Hays recorded the most fish catching at least 35 bluegills.



David Redd, Outing Committee

With his catch; Mark won the honor of keeping the Outing Trophy. Unfortunately, no one recorded catching a bass so the Carl Hanson drawing award will go unclaimed for another year. The Outing participants all seemed to enjoy the fellowship, beautiful

scenery and some entertainment by a

very bold Red Shouldered Hawk.



Mark Hays (r) gets to keep the Hillsborough River outing trophy for one year for catching the most bluegills – 35. Pres. George Haseltine made it official.



Mark's name goes on the trophy. Again.



Rick and Karen Warfel, David Redd, George Haseltine, Mark Hays, Barry Salzman, Bob Burkard and Quin Berry.



Mark's magic fly – a very small white spider for small bluegills.



Sorry, Carl. Next year!



Beautiful. You should have been there.

Preview: November Outing, Cypress Point Park

By David Redd

Saturday, November 17, 2018

November's Outing will be at Cypress Point Park in Tampa. The target species will be sea trout. There are park and wade or kayaking opportunities there. Come and enjoy great fishing opportunities, better fellowship and, of course, a free lunch paid by the club. Meet for lunch at noon at a pavilion where familiar fly fishers are gathering.



Cypress Point Park opens at sunrise. If you arrive before the park opens you can park at the adjacent business park.

Directions to Cypress Point Park (5620 W. Cypress Street, Tampa) from St. Petersburg

- Take Sunshine Skyway (I-275) from St Petersburg towards Tampa
- Keep right to take EXIT #39 onto FL 60 W. toward Veterans Expressway
- In half a mile exit right onto W. Spruce Street. Keep right.
- In 4/10-mile turn right on Obrien Street
- In half a mile turn right onto W. Cypress Street
- In 6/10 of a mile the park is on your left.

2018 CLUB OUTING TOURNAMENT LEADERS						
Species	Length	Leader to date	Outing (Month)			
Longest sunfish	8"	Quin Berry, Tony Piazza	Walsingham Lake (February)			
Longest sunfish						
Longest black bass	18"	Mark Hays	Walsingham Lake (February)			
Longest snook	32"	Adam Hays	Docklight/beach sunset/sunrise			
Longest redfish						
Longest ladyfish	13"	Jack Cason	Fort DeSoto Park (May)			
Longest seatrout	18.5"	David Redd	Pinellas Point (January)			

Remaining 2018 Outing Locations

Month	Outing Date	Outing	Target Fish	Fresh or Salt
November	11/17/2018	Cypress Point Park	Longest Seatrout	Salt
December	12/8/2018	Ft. De Soto Park - Don Coleman club Invitational. Annual Chili Contest	Longest fish, any species	Salt

Tying Bench - Layne Smith's Salt & Pepper

Fly of the month for the Cypress Point Park outing. The Salt & Pepper fly is a good imitation for silversides. whitebait and even a glass minnow. Trout love flashy bait as do the mackerel family especially Spanish Mackerel. Fish it fast when being chased ... 'cuz you can't strip it fast enough when those species are hungry.



Materials

Hook: Mustad 34011 size #2 or your favorite long-

shanked saltwater hook

Thread: Danville Flatwaxed Nylon (white)

Body: Silver Mylar tubing
Tail / Wing: Salt & Pepper Flashabou
Head: Build-up of tying thread

Gills: Collar of Danville Flatwaxed Nylon (red)

Cement: SHHAN

Tying Sequence

Step 1. Remove core from Mylar tubing and slide over hook shank. Fray the end of tubing so that it extends past hook bend about ½". Measure cord to a heads-length behind hook eye and cut. Secure cord at bend of hook with a half dozen wraps of thread and a 3 turn whip finish. Cut thread and cement with SHHAN and then overcoat with UV Resin and cure.

Step 2. Re-tie thread at front of cord and secure with same thread wraps and whip finish and cement as you did at hook bend (DO NOT CUT THREAD AT THIS TIME)

Step 3. Attach 15 to 20 strands of Flashabou to the topside of hook at tie-off point, so that they extend $1\frac{1}{2}$ " past hook bend, and then fold Flashabou back over itself and tie down with thread wraps and whip finish (Again, DO NOT CUT THREAD). Trim folded over Flashabou at hook bend as a wing. Use scissors to taper wing and tail so they don't look like a squared-off paint brush.

Step 4. Use a number of thread wraps going back and forth from tie-off point to hook eye to create a smooth rounded head for the fly. Finish off with a 6 turn whip finish.

Step 5. Attach red thread just behind head and create a collar to represent gills. Tie off with a 3 turn whip finish. Cut off excess thread. Coat head and gills with UV Resin and cure.

NOTE: Eyes are optional. If used, add before UV Resin overcoat.

Smitty

Tying Bench - Bruce Evensen Shrimp.



This shrimp pattern created by Bruce Evensen is the fly for SFF members and others to tie at Bruce's direction at his studio on Monday, Nov. 12. Bruce recommends this fly to catch the longest seatrout at November's outing at Cypress Point Park. It's suitable for all salt water fishing.

Bill Scarola

Materials

Hook: size 4 stinger or 3407

Eyes: Shrimp eyes,

Chenille: Medium pearl palmered chenille

Legs: Crazy legs, color brown, tan, solid or spotted

Hair: Super hair tan color or white, etc.

Paint bristles. No need to bring any bristles. Bruce has all you'll need!

Glue: UV epoxy

Thread: Flat waxed in white or tan, or mono.

Tying sequence

Step 1: Wrap thread from hook eye to point.

Step 2: Add several paint bristles to extend past the rear of hook, anchor them in above the hook point, so that they extend an inch or so beyond hook bend.

Step 3: Add shrimp eyes, so each one protrudes on each side of the fly. Extending to the hook bend.

Step 4: Add several strands of Crazy Legs, extend as above.

Step 5: Add a thin bunch of super hair above bristles and legs& eyes, tying about mid shank so they extend almost as long as the bristles be sure to leave a small tuft of super hair beyond the hook eye to act as a tail. As pictured.

Step 6: Palmer several wraps of chenille to mid body of fly, pulling them down to simulate shrimps legs.

Step 7: Whip finish the materials behind the hook eye.

Step 8: UV epoxy over the shrimp body on top of and on the sides of all materials adding it to the super hair to stiffen it. Do not add it to the underside of the shrimp.

Tying Bench - Bruce Evensen Deerhair Minnow



Suncoast Fly Fishers tied this at Bruce

Evensen's fly tying studio. Special thanks to Bill

Scarola for providing a list of the materials and

step by step tying instructions.

Materials

Hook: Size 4 - to - 6 stingers or #2 sb-15's

Thread: Flat-waxed, tan or mono

Head: Deer body fur

Hackle (optional): Dry fly hackle fibers in tan or brown grizzly

Tail: Craft fur in tan or white

Eyes: Doll eyes, either stick on or with stems

Mark-up: Brown

Tying sequence

Step 1: Wrap thread from hook eye to bend!

Step 2: Tie in small batch of craft fur. 1-1.5 times hook shank, just above and in front of hook bend

Step 3: Tie in hackle (optional) in front of tail's craft fur, 2-3 wraps, tie off.

Step 4: Attach a clump of deer body hair, and spin hair by pulling firmly on thread then pack it rearward. Add more deer hair to fill in head, be sure to pack it tightly. Add as much as needed to fill in the space in front of hackle to hook eye then whip finish! Add a drop of glue.

Step 5: Trim head fur to form a small bead shaped head. A razor blade works well here as do scissors If you didn't use hackle you can leave some of the longer deer hair un-cut to form a neck behind the head fur while trimming the bead-shaped head.

Step 6: Tie on or glue on the eyes of your choice. Fletching glue works well here.

Step 7: Use a Magic Marker to add an odd number of stripes on the tail.

Tying Bench - Bruce Evensen Polar Fiber Minnow

Suncoast Fly Fishers tied this at Bruce Evensen's fly tying studio on Monday, Oct. 29. Special thanks to Bill Scarola for providing the materials and instructions.

Materials

Hook: 1/0 bait holder with short shank (aka "live bait hook"

Thread: flat-waxed white or chartreuse or mono thread

Body: Polar Fiber -- chartreuse, olive, white, gray, and orange for belly

Flash: Flashabou (pearl)

Magic Markers: black or brown plus orange for belly

Eyes: large holographic stick-on bubble type

Glue: UV epoxy



Bruce's Polar Fiber Minnow. You choose your colors.

Tying Steps

Step 1: Wrap thread to hook point

Step 2: Tie in body material. Tie all body materials front to back starting behind hook eye.

Step 3: Add a small clump of white polar fiber to underside of hook, then add another small clump of white on top of hook shaft.

Step 4: Add a small clump of colored body fiber on top of top white material.

Step 5: Add a few strands of micro fiber orange or polar fiber to belly. or color throat area with orange marker.

Step 6: Add several strands of pearl Flashabou on each side of fly.

Step 7: Whip finish head binding all fibers just behind hook eye.

Step 8: Add eyes to fly. Be sure to keep eyes above the hook shank.

Step 9: Glue head, covering eyes. and thread wraps.

Teaching Fly Tying to the Next Generation By Tom Gadacz and Bill Scarola

On October 20 members of the Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) had the opportunity to tie fly fishing flies with youngsters at the annual MarineQuest on the waterfront in St. Petersburg,

We started at 8 am, setting up our space. By 10 each of the six SFF members was busy teaching future fly fishers to tie their own fly. It continued nonstop until the event ended at 4 pm by the end of the day we used 185 small plastic fly boxes with our club logo and some of the boxes had two flies. Each youth chose the colors they wished to use.

Some of the patterns included the colorful Electric Chicken, the Ada potato, Smitty's white spider, Hilton's multi-colored woolly bugger, and a Halloween Special in black and orange to catch "pumpkin" fish.



Karen and Arthur Birnkrant with two new fly tiers.

The new fly tiers ranged in age from three years to the early teens. Some were returning for a second year and even a third year at the SFF tying tables. Suncoast Fly Fishers have been participating in this event since 2009.

It was great to see so many smiling and youthful faces who now had a fly they tied to catch a fish. A few of the kids did have a fly rod and have fished with it. Let's hope they will remember the joy of tying something that catches fish and will become our future fly fishing members and leaders.

Suncoast Fly Fishers at
Marine Quest. More than
200 flies were tied between
10 am and 4 pm including
the Woolly Bugger, Electric
Chicken, White Spider, and
our recently deceased
member Ken Hofmeister's
favorite, the Ada Potato,
tied with synthetic fibers
from a duster.

Bill Scarola, committee chair

Tom Gadacz

Bruce Evensen

Art and Karen Birnkrant

Peter Cline

Hilton Bruch

Rick Warfel

Camden Nightengale

Miriam Craig

Barry Salzman

Layne Smith



Rick Warfel's fly tier gets the hang of it. It's a wrap!

Tom Gadacz & Bíll Scarola

More MarineQuest information and photos are on the next page

Continued... Teaching the Next Generation



Bill Scarola took charge of SFF's tying at MarineQuest 2018



Peter Cline. Ada Potata table!



Hilton Bruch



Barry Salzman



Bruce Evensen taught Superman how to tie flies.



Volunteer Camden Nightengale joined the cause.

About MarineQuest

In 1995, the Fish and Wildlife
Research Institute (FWRI) held its
first MarineQuest open house. The
event was created to inform the
public about the research
performed at the institute and to
introduce the community to the
world of marine science.

The following year, MarineQuest expanded; FWRI added a second day to provide local schools and students with an opportunity to visit the institute. Over the years, the event has expanded to a three-day event that now welcomes thousands of visitors. Dave Reed helps organize this event and is the MarineQuest Outdoor Display Chairman. This year there were more than 7,100 attendees.

Tom Gadacz



Layne Smith



Arthur Birnkrant (1) and Tom Gadacz showed the next generation of fly fishers that tying flies can be a lot of fun.

Quin Berry: Barrier Island Rod Bender with Ethan Kiburz





I had a great trip with Capt. Ethan Kiburz last week. I have been out with him several times and it's always fun. We went out early in the week to the outside of the barrier islands near Dunedin. Large bait schools were being attacked in every direction. We caught large Spanish macs, jacks, ladyfish, blue runners and specs. The weather and fishing were outstanding.

Quín

Tom Gadacz: Bay Pines VA Employee Wellness Fair

Alan Sewell, Rebecca Fortin, Warren Shane, and Tom Gadacz staffed the event.

Volunteers demonstrated their fly tying skills for other VA employees at our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Program at the Bay Pines Veterans Medical Center.

We shared our contributions to the care of the veterans at the Bay Pines. The VA Employee Wellness Fair was held on October 31 and the treat was on us. Several participants and employees donned Halloween costumes and we tied some Halloween flies.

We had the opportunity to explain how fly tying helped veterans cope with their physical and emotional



Fly Fishing for Wellness --Rebecca Fortin, Alan Sewell (middle), and Warren Shane. Suncoast Fly Fishers welcomes VA patients and their family members to come to one of our meetings.

combat related problems. Other parts of our program included rod building, fly casting and fly fishing. We introduced several employees to fly fishing and invited them to not only send their patients to our activities but also for them, a family member, or friend to attend one of our Suncoast Fly Fishing meetings.

Tom

The Montauk Washing Machine



Annie Hays in Montauk, steeling nerves and braving the rolling tempest. And for a good cause – powerful striped bass on the fly. Oh, what a feeling!

By Annie Hays

I don't handle motion sickness very well. I can't get on an airplane without taking enough Dramamine to tranquilize a horse, and I still feel a bit woozy as I recall the one and only deep-sea fishing trip I was talked into going on. However, in mid-October my wonderful mother was kind enough to spend hundreds of dollars and an afternoon of her vacation so I could go fly fishing on Montauk Point. I had to steel my nerves and brave the rolling tempest.

Mom and I hired Captain Merritt White out of Star Island Yacht Club in Montauk Harbor. He was waiting for us in his twenty-foot center console boat

at 1:30 pm. The clouds hung low over the harbor all afternoon giving the impression it was sundown at 2.

At first, Mom and I were worried. The captain called three of his friends and only one reported fish. Clad in our Grundéns rain gear, we bounced across the sound for what felt like an hour looking for Striped Bass busting on the surface. The seagulls were mulling around with no particular place to go, and I felt awful for insisting we take this trip.

Finally, our captain found a school of Stripers about a mile off Montauk Point. The rest of the afternoon was like a cocaine rush that would make Keith Richards jealous.



Annie with another powerful Long Island striper.



We have a winner, the indestructible crease fly

The captain handed me a ten-weight rod rigged with a crease

fly, which is an anchovy imitation. I was to sight cast at any boils and strip the line as fast as possible.

Thankfully the captain provided us with surgical gloves to keep our hands dry or I would have burned my left index finger on the line many times.

The siding on the boat was lined with padding to rest against as I struggled to walk from hull to bow. The front had a wedge between the two sides of the pads to brace my left leg. Mom stayed in the back armed with a spinning rod and a Dangerous Dick lure.

My first cast probably made our captain question whether I had lied about fishing in the Everglades and Yellowstone. Unlike me, he considered this a rather calm, quiet day with light chop and some wind whereas I felt like I just cast into a hurricane in the middle of a Malaysian tsunami.

Continues on next page

The Montauk Washing Machine



Montauk Point Lighthouse

I remembered Carl Hanson's philosophy of making short but deliberate casts. I just focused on getting the fly in the water with minimal slack, and within a few frantic strips of the line I had a fish.

Mom also hooked a fish at the exact same time. At least the trip hadn't been in vain, but I was terrified I would lose the little Striper. It fought like a Redfish, but much stronger. For those who have not caught Stripers before, they have large tails like Snook. Each whip of their tails had a lot of torque behind it. I kept the rod up and the fish zipped away all my slack line in moments. Then it proceeded to drag me to the back of the boat.

The captain released Mom's fish before she could take a picture of her first Striper to help me out. My fish dragged me to the motor and I had to pull as hard as a dared to keep it from swimming under the boat. Finally, I got it to the boat and we managed to get a picture. I managed to land about ten fish to Mom's seven, but on average hers were

a few inches longer than mine.

Two days before this, Mom and I went to New York City for my first time and her second time. Looking back, Stripers bear a stronger resemblance to New Yorkers. First off, these fish are absolutely fearless. The captain would motor up to a school, stop about one foot short of them, and they would not be phased in the slightest. At times we were fishing only a few yards away from other boats and the fish still did not spook.

The fish are also extremely stubborn. Every fish I hooked dragged me back to the motor which my mother greatly appreciatedhmmm....as she was trying to fish. These fish go wherever they want, just like the

cyclists weaving through Manhattan traffic. About halfway through our trip I managed to hook one fish close to legal size. We had no intention of keeping it (Mom gave her Sea Bass to the captain for dinner that night) but it was exciting to catch one decent sized fish. It hit so hard the captain thought it was an Albie at first.

After three hours of our scheduled four-hour trip, my stomach had enough of violently bobbing around at the front of the boat. My pallor must have looked like pea soup because Mom and the captain immediately agreed to go home. We bounced over the waves so hard the spray made it difficult to breathe for some stretches. I was tempted to kiss the ground at the yacht club when we arrived.

Unfortunately, there wasn't time because someone locked the bathrooms on us and we needed to get back to our relative's house.



Annie with one of her many stripers caught by she and her Mom fly fishing out of Montauk Harbor with Captain Merritt White.

Halfway home, Mom and I got stuck in traffic on Sunrise Highway. She was cold and I was still bobbing along in the surf despite the car having functional shocks. We passed a restaurant with the greatest advertising I have ever seen, "Chicken Pot Pie Monday." Mom did a U-Turn at lightning speed and we were soon shoveling molten gravy and Caesar Salad so fast the waiter looked a bit concerned.

The Clewiston Crew Scores Oscars in E-glade Canals



Bill Scarola wrote, "We slaughtered the oscars."



This is the Clewiston Crew, which has been humorously described as "An eating club with a fly fishing problem." From the left, Mike Bandera, Bill Scarola, Tom Trukenbrod, Ray Smith, Bruce Evensen, Arthur Birnkrant, David Redd. Also making the trip were Mike Simmons and Dennis, a friend.



Arthur Birnkrant, new member of the Clewiston crew, caught the hang of it right away.

Oscar who?

The distribution of Oscars in Florida is restricted to the area south of Tampa. The native range of Oscars lies within the Orinoco, La Plata, and Amazon River basins in South America (Jimporter.org)





Raymond Smith with one of many.



Andy Constantinou: Beautiful Bonefish Week in Mexico

I just spent a week in Mexico on the annual trip with the Tampa Club at Costa de Cocos in Xcalak. Bonefish and jacks galore in a beautiful place. Fishing and fresh fish for dinner were great.













Andy (really)

Dennis Marquis: Fly fishing from a RecVee



State College, Pennsylvania

Cindy and I have been traveling in the RV since March 1. The last leg of this year's voyage brought us to State College, PA where our younger of two sons, Wes, is finishing up at Penn State. While visiting with Wes, I had time to connect with a TCO Fly Shop for a guided trip on Spring Creek with Sam Galt, one of their staff. If you are in the area I would recommend TCO for advice, tackle and if interested, guide services.



Next month—Home again. See you at the November meeting

Spring Creek is home of the legendary Fisherman's Paradise where you can have 40+ wild brown trout in the water within striking distance in

many spots. Some say it is the finest wild trout stream in Pennsylvania.

Being new to trout fishing, my goal was to learn, and if possible to catch a few fish. With my primary goal being to learn, Sam brought rods rigged and ready to fish streamers, traditional double nymphing and using a European nymphing leader. He wanted to show me several different methods for fishing the same creek. He was very genuine, and hoped I would take the experience with me as I developed my skills. I ended up landing trout on all three-rig types! For me as a neophyte trout fisher, it was a banner day.



Pennsylvania's Spring Creek Brown

We wade fished in three different locations along the Spring Creek. Fish were biting all day. It was a bit on the cloudy side, and at one point we had a few sprinkles of rain. The water was higher and, as Sam said, was not optimal – I didn't know the difference and had a lot of fun. I am just maybe hooked on trout fishing.

I have been told that trout fishing some streams can be a game of inches. I found this to be very true with the European nymphing leader, which can be placed where you need it. Sam was trying to get me to fish a crease about 8-feet from where we were standing. The drift was no more than 10-ft long. After several drifts with no luck, he took the rod and showed me where he wanted the fly. He placed it about 5 inches closer to the bank and landed a fish almost immediately. What a lesson! I was able to reproduce the drift and ... success!

With my three-day license, I had some time to try fishing Penns Creek. Penns Creek is the largest and longest limestone stream in Pennsylvania. Using a double nymph and an indicator, I managed to land a nice brown. I will admit to spending much of the time untangling the nymphs and leader. Maybe I need more practice.

Dennis

Tampa Bay Times : Captain's Corner

Capt. Pat Damico: As shallow waters cool, look for fish to feed



Feeding activity for fish will improve as shallow waters cool. That can mean good fishing any time of day but consulting tide charts is always a first step to focus on moving water. It will bring food to lazy fish, and it helps determine their location. As water leaves a shallow flat, fish will follow, frequently hanging around in the closest deeper water. Low tide is now late morning. This gives you two great times to fish. When the tide begins to come in, fish will ease up on the flat to resume feeding on shrimp, crabs and baitfish. Reds, trout and snook will all follow a similar pattern. Good polarized glasses are necessary to see where the darker grass flat transitions into a lighter grayish color that shows the increase in water depth. Grass flats with the most irregular edges are always the better

producers. Offsets and changes are high percentage places for fish to wait in ambush of their prey. Casting accuracy is imperative as some of these areas will have a small target where fish will be waiting. It's also necessary to have your fly or small jig land with minimal disturbance as you are still casting to relatively shallow water. Since we use flies, they should have little or no weight. Keep your rod tip low and close to the water after each cast to allow better line control and an easy quick recast if needed. If your cast is less than perfect, continue fishing it rather than have a quick recast rip the water and scare fish. Many nice fish have been caught on less than perfect casts.

Fly fisherman Pat Damico charters 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.

Suncoast Fly Fishers Favorite Recipes...

Alan Sewell: Sausages and Hot German Potato Salad

Ingredients:

5-6 pounds potatoes, peeled

1 pound bacon

1 onion, chopped

4 tablespoons of flour

4 tablespoons of white sugar

salt to taste

1 teaspoon, celery seed

1 teaspoon. black pepper

1 cup chicken stock

1/2 cup apple cider vinegar

Email Alan with your favorite picnic recipe. If possible, include a picture, too.

Cooking instructions

- 1. Cook bacon until evenly browned. drain and crumble, reserving drippings.
- 2. Saute onions in bacon drippings until they are golden brown.
- 3. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, sugar, salt, celery seed and pepper.
- 4. Add to the sauteed onions.
- 5. Cook and stir until bubbly, then remove from heat.
- 6. Stir in stock and vinegar, then return to stove and bring to boil, stirring constantly.
- 7. Boil and stir for one minute. stir bacon and sliced potatoes in the stock and vinegar mixture.
- 8. Stir gently until potatoes are heated through.
- 9. Serve hot

Bill AuCoin: Flyfisher Flyover



Finding Joe Brooks is a 90-minute documentary that aired on the Outdoor Channel last June. It's about the fly fisher who inspired Lefty Kreh and thousands of other fly fishers. You can rent it for about \$13. But you can also watch some videos about the video. Good stuff. H/T. Rick Warfel. Rick adds that you may be able to view it using the On-Demand feature on your cable service or on a streaming service. (Editor's note: It's not on Netflix. I searched "Finding" and the only show that came up was Finding Nemo.) (Florida Sportsman, Joe Brooks Foundation, Vimeo)

Blue/green used to be a beautiful color. Now it's the name of that awful algae in Lake Okeechobee and beyond. The good news is that legislation has been signed that will help solve the problem. We're talking about a reservoir south of

Lake Okeechobee that will filter out toxins. (Associated Press)

And speaking of algae blooms. Sarasota Bay Watch has a way to minimize the negative effects of red tide. (The Fishing Wire)

Your weekly red tide tracker. Karenia brevis persists on Florida's Gulf Coast and Atlantic coast. It's even up in the Florida Panhandle. (My FWC)

Raising Trail. The Florida DOT has the money now and will start raising portions of the Tamiami Trail across South Florida to allow more water to flow through more of the lower Everglades. Hey, maybe it will motivate more Florida cougars to move north into new territory, too. (The Fishing Wire)

Got visitors coming? Florida has several free fishing days (No license required.). License-free freshwater fishing for residents and non-residents is on the first consecutive Saturday and Sunday in April (April 6-7, 2019) and the second consecutive Saturday and Sunday in June (June 8-9). License-free saltwater says are the first consecutive Saturday and Sunday in June (June 1-2), the first Saturday in September (September 7) and the Saturday after Thanksgiving. (November 24). H/T. Eugene Proulx. (MY FWC)

This is why fish costs so much at the market. We used to think there was no limit to the bounty of earth's oceans. Global seafood consumption has doubled in the last 50 years. Is this why I don't catch many fish? (Sarc) .H/T. Eugene Proulx. (Science and Research Technology News)

Isn't the internet great? Yep, especially when you can find some helpful how-to, where-to fly fishing information. Here's a primer on how to fish Cypress Point Park in Tampa. That's our November outing location, you know. The writer points out that he discovered Cypress Point Park while sitting in a window seat landing on a flight from Atlanta to Tampa. I believe him. You can wade in or launch a kayak. Alas, there is no boat ramp but the one at Picnic Island Park isn't too far from there. (Salt Strong)

Isn't the internet great, part two. Here's a forum where anglers weigh-in on the good and the not so good about fishing Cypress Point Park. For example, you if you arrive before sunrise the park will be closed. So park at the business lot just to the north. (Florida Sportsman)

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