

# 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*



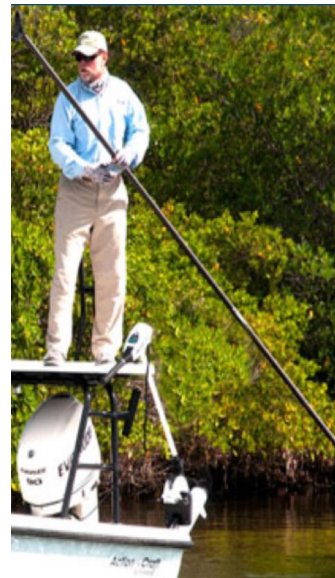
*Darryn Manley is restoring this flats boat for PFWFF. And he needs our help. P14*



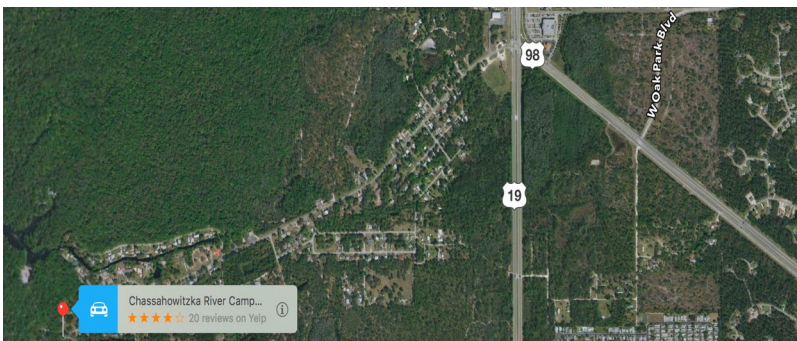
*Oh what a beautiful morning. Urban Outing. P3*



*St. Pete, Tampa and Sarasota clubs will help show goers tie flies and cast a fly rod. P4*



*One of the best. Our September meeting speaker is Capt. Rick Grassett. P3*



*Do you know the way to San Jose Chassahowitzka? Time to prep for the September FW outing. P9*



## *SFF President Letter – September 2018*

Hello Everyone,

I learned how to negotiate from a guy named Roger Dawson. Awesome Course. By the way, the first principle of negotiation is the flinch. You probably already know that: YOU WANT HOW MUCH FOR THAT?!!

Believe it or not, I learned how to make the lessons my own by dealing with my mother when she got Alzheimer's. Can you imagine that?

At first it was devastating for our family and so sad to see her in that state. My heart goes out to anyone going through that with a loved one. Then I realized that she was in a world of her own. She was meeting new people every day. They were the same people, but she didn't know that. It was my sisters and I who were going crazy!

My younger sister would try to reason with her and correct her which led to frustration on both sides.

My older sister just went along with my Mom, no matter where she was coming from or who she thought she was talking to. As I observed my older sister's dealing with my Mom, I realized that she was "negotiating" with her in the kindest way; using a gentle maneuvering skill to communicate with her. She was entering into her frame of mind no matter how odd or off the wall it was. This set my Mom at ease and gave her a sense of well-being.

And, you know, the Collateral Beauty in it all was that Love abounded and new things were learned. Beneath it all was a wisdom that the argumentative mind cannot see. She revealed to us her childhood, her love of life and the people in it, her experiences of joy and disappointment. It would have been easy to miss it if we had not been paying attention. And, best of all, we allowed her to live out the rest of her life in peace knowing that whatever she said or did was OK with us.

Please understand that I have simplified it here and I know that there are a lot of deep emotions and especially anger involved at times. No matter what, it is not an easy thing to go through, but there is a collateral beauty.

After going through it for a number of years, I realized that the principles I learned could be applied anywhere and in any dealing with anyone. You see, we all live in a world of our own. If you don't believe it, try to abruptly change someone's mind. The first thing they will do is defend where they stand and what they believe; sometimes adamantly.

Now, I said all that to say this: You, our members, are accepting each other right where you are. And this has brought forth a culture of not only friendship, but a helpful attitude and contagious growth. To prove it, observe our members at an outing. We're 25 yards from the truck to the picnic tables and many containers to carry. Everyone chips in and carries something.

*Continued...*

## *President's letter, September 2018*

The new visitor that comes into the room does not stand alone for very long. Look at the ideas, flies, magazines and so many other things that are shared so freely.

You see, we have the freedom to be ourselves. The real people that we are; not criticizing or judging each other. We are all focused on one goal: being part of an Eating Club with a Fly-Fishing habit. Did I say that right?

I firmly believe that if someone is given a job, get out of the way and let them do it. And I am constantly amazed at the results. I also believe that the second strongest force in the whole universe is AN IDEA. When we are allowed to apply our experiences and talents for the benefit of Our Club the greatest ideas surface.

I've said it before and will always say it; no matter who you are, "**never underestimate the value of your presence in another person's life or their presence in yours.**"

Thank you for continually enriching my life! See you at the next meeting and outing.

*Never lose your sense of adventure.*

*George*

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

## Club Meetings, Outings, and More

### Thursday, September 20 Meeting

- Speaker: **Capt. Rick Grassett**
- Membership renewal month. Pay Karen Warfel at the meeting

### Saturday, September 22 Outing

- Chassahowitzka River near Crystal River
- Boat launch and kayak rentals available
- More details and directions on page 9

**B**ob 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.

**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 130 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.



## Club Meetings, Outings, and More

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

- St. Pete, Tampa, and Sarasota fly fishing clubs will teach fly tying and fly casting to show goers.
- Fly tiers and casters needed. See David Redd
- **Saturday noon: Fly Tying Throwdown for trophy and prizes for the best fly tyer.**
- Fly fishing seminars
- Saturday hours 9-5; Sunday 10-4, admission \$8
- Newest fly gear, live music, craft beer



### Saturday, Oct. 13, Fall Casting Carnival

- Save the date. More info to come.

### Wednesday, October 17, Outing--Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

- SFF members are invited to join and help veterans fly cast, fish and kayak.
- Meet up at Arrowhead Picnic area at Fort De Soto Park at 8 am. Stay for lunch.
- Let committee chair Alan Sewell know you're coming. sewellalan@yahoo.com

### Midweek outings with

#### Bill Scarola

>Oct.2, Hillsborough River

>Nov. 2, Cypress Point Park

*Signup and get details with Bill at club meetings. Fishing starts at 8 am. You're on your own for lunch*

### 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.. 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

## Club Meetings, Outings, and More

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

- SFF competes against Tampa Bay Fly Fishers on the Hillsborough River to honor deceased member Carl Hanson of bendback fly fame
- 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



Tom Logan

### 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

- 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 costs \$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's online Calendar**

## August meeting snapshots

### *Bamboo and Walnut award*



*Dick Miekka, third from left, has won Cliff Nigh's bamboo fly rod which Cliff is crafting to Dick's specs. When it's ready to fly, he'll keep it in the walnutcase crafted by Rick Warfel, on the right.*

### *Drawing for free subscription*



*David Redd (l) won the first free subscription to TAIL magazine. VP Rick Warfel did the honors.*

## News 'n' Notes



At the August meeting Alan Sewell (l) introduced veterans Beccy and Warren who both earned a free fly fishing rendezvous in Montana with seven other Florida vets. They now help Alan teach fly tying and fly rod building at the weekly PHWFF classes at Bay Pines Veterans Hospital.

Alan Sewell reports there was a nice turnout at the last outing for the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing committee. The next outing will be October 17 at Arrowhead Picnic Area at Fort De Soto Park. SFF members are welcome. Come help the veterans learn to fly cast, fly fish, and kayak. Meet up at 8 am. Stay and help with lunch. In addition to the fly fishing and picnics, Suncoast Fly Fishers holds classes every Wednesday at Bay Pines for rod building, fly tying and casting. Email Alan [sewellalan@yahoo.com](mailto:sewellalan@yahoo.com)

We're raffling another free, one year subscription to *TAIL Magazine* at the September meeting. Here's how it works: A copy of the current issue of the magazine will be on Dave's raffle table. Whoever selects the magazine as their raffle prize will get a free, one-year subscription to *TAIL Magazine*. You must buy a raffle ticket to be eligible. The more tickets you buy the better your chances of winning.

*TAIL Magazine* is having a special promotional rate through December 31<sup>st</sup>. One year (6 issues) for \$34.99. That's a saving of \$13 over their regular subscription rate. Check it out [here](#).

## Fly Gear for Sale or Swap

**Bruce Evensen has hand-made items for sale. Call him at 727-403-9010. Also, visit his "Poppa Bruces Flies" pages on [Etsy](#).**

Hook or eyes holder hand made by Bruce Evensen, \$28.00

Thread holder with one fly holder hand made by Bruce Evensen, \$9.00

Fly tying desk and tool holder, \$50.00

Prototype fly tying desk and tool holder hand made by Bruce Evensen, 2ftx2ft., \$85.00

Epoxy and glue holder (items not included) hand made by Bruce Evensen, \$24.00



Hand-made hook and eye holder

**Phil Chapman in Lakeland has fly rods, flies. Email Phil at [tarponfeathers@msm.com](mailto:tarponfeathers@msm.com)**

Albright 8-weight, 9-foot, never used. Sock and tube included. \$125

TFO 12 weight, BVK model, 9', 4-piece. Never used. \$150

TFO 12 weight, TiCRX model, 9', 4-piece. Slight use. \$110

Old school Fenwick custom 8-weight on World Class blank. 9.5', 2-piece rod. \$50

TRL J. Quill, 10 weight, 9', 4-piece. Never used. Sock and tube included. \$100

TRL J. Quill, 12-weight, 9', 4 piece. Used once. Sock and tube included. \$95

Also, ask about 11 and 12 weight fly line deals and #3/0 Puglisi Peanut Butter Bunker flies

**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](mailto:clwpaddler@gmail.com)

Want to run an ad? Email Bill AuCoin at [wmaucoin@verizon.net](mailto: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(c)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<sup>nd</sup> Avenue N turn North on 72<sup>nd</sup> St. N. Turn left (South) on 26<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com)



## Review: Urban Outing

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



*Bob Burkard, co-chairman, Outing Committee*

*By Bob Burkard*

### August 2018 – Bay Vista Park

It was a perfect Florida summer day for our August outing at Bay Vista park -- a nice breeze coming off the water, bright sunshine, humidity not too bad, and pleasant temps under the shade of the shelter.

I am also happy to report that this was a successful fishing outing with our members reporting catches of snook, mackerel, trout and our targeted ladyfish.

Our annual Rib Challenge turned into a “Festival of Ribs” with a number of our members bringing their great barbecued ribs. Alan Sewell, Hilton Bruch and Jan Bailey-Bruch, Rick Warfel, Karen and Arthur Birnkrant, and I ended up sharing the prize for the best ribs ever.... And the sides were spectacular. Twenty-six people attended. See below.

#### 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	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)



*Suncoast Fly Fishers attending the Urban Outing at Bay Vista Park posted for posterity. Fishing and/or eating was quite good, they all agreed.*



*Gobble, gobble rib cook-off. Everyone's a winner.*



## Preview: September Outing on Chassahowitzka River

*Prizes for the longest bass and longest bream. Bring your own lunch. Meet at noon at the boat ramp*



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

*By Bob Burkard*

**Saturday, September 22**

**Chassahowitzka River Boat Ramp (County Park)  
8690 Miss Maggie Drive, Chassahowitzka, Florida**

This will be my first time fishing the Chassahowitzka River. I have heard great things about this outing from many of our Suncoast Fly Fishers members, and I am looking forward to fishing with my lighter freshwater fly rods. I am also excited about fishing (as described by Truk) in a crystal-clear, spring-fed river that provides miles of fishing opportunities both in the river and in its many tributaries.



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

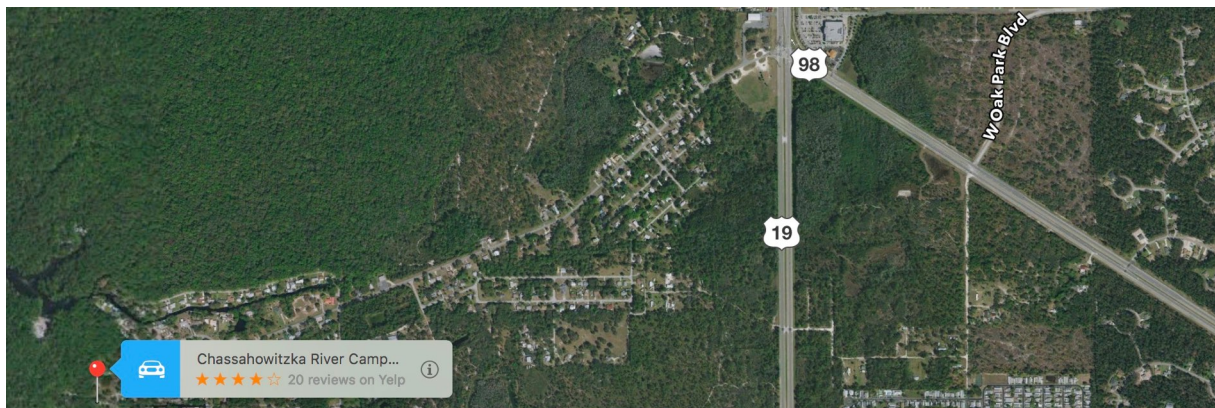
There are two target fish: longest bass or bream.

This is a brown bag lunch event. Suncoast Fly fisher is providing drinks and we hope to meet up at noon for lunch by the boat launch to eat and swap fishing stories. This is one of our “far from Tampa” outings where members fishing cannot wade and need a kayak, boats, or canoe. Members in need of boats can rent a kayak, canoes, or johnboats at the **campground**. Also, there is a launching fee, payable at the campground store. Parking is \$5 or, with trailer, \$7.

### Directions from St. Pete to Chassahowitzka River Campground and boat launch

Driving time about 90 minutes.

- Drive east across the Howard Frankland Bridge (I-275).
- Exit 39 (airport ramp) to SR 60 then merge onto Memorial Highway.
- Continue north then merge left onto the Veterans Highway (589).
- Continue north on 589 which becomes the Suncoast Parkway.
- Take the US 9 8 WEST exit toward Crystal River. Go 1/2 mile and turn left on US-98 NORTH/SR 700/Ponce de Leon Blvd.
- Go 4.5 miles then cross over Highway 19 and bear left onto state road 480/W. Miss Maggie Drive.
- Proceed to the Chassahowitzka River Campground and boat launch.



*Apple Maps*

## Capt. Ray Markham: Dog Days of Summer Fly Fishing

*By Duane Mertz*

In a free-flowing discussion with SFF members at the club's August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Captain Ray Markham of St. Petersburg's Backwater Promotions, provided a number of tips on how to get the most out of fly-fishing during the Dog Days of August.

A native of St. Petersburg, Captain Ray provides light tackle & fly-fishing charters throughout the Tampa Bay Area. Captain Ray prefaced his talk with three interesting observations:

**Red Tide--**Red Tide is a natural-occurring phenomenon in the area and has been happening here for many, many years. "It's a shame some politicians are trying to make political points with it. We've always had red tides here."

**How Fish React to Flies--**The best way to learn how fish react to flies is to tie yarn to the end of your fly line and cast it towards a house cat. "Cats approach flies the same as fish; they don't come head on, but rather they approach flies from a perimeter approach being wary of predators. Try it sometime and you'll learn how fish approach flies."

**How to Find Good Fishing Spots --** The best way to find good fishing spots on saltwater flats is a dead-low tide. Walk along a mangrove line and look for water run-outs at super low tides. During the hotter months fish migrate to deeper water or to shady areas, but they won't travel more than 100 feet from their holding areas at low tide and will come back in along the run-out when tides comes in.

Other great spots include oyster beds. Rocks covered in kelp are especially good for mangrove snapper.

**When Is Fishing Best in Hot Weather?** Captain Ray consults the Solunar Forecast & Predictions to determine the best time of the day to fish. He also monitors moon phases and tide charts. "The best times are always before a cold front comes in and, just before an electrical storm hits", he said. Captain Ray joked about being in an open boat just before a lightning strike and having the hairs on his arm stand up.

**What's the Best Rod to Use?** Captain Ray uses differently weighted rods, but if you are going for a day of blind casting he recommends a 6-weight to reduce fatigue. For dock light fishing a 6 or 7-weight is good, while he'll step up to an 8-weight for windy conditions.

**What are the best fly sizes to use in hot weather?** "I don't use big flies in warm weather, I don't think fish want to work too hard when the water is in the 90's, so I use smaller flies." Some good choices include: Small glow shrimp on a #6 or #8 hook cast on an 8-weight rod will crush trout, snook, and mangrove snapper. Other favorites include: Epoxy shrimp, EP micro minnows in light olive, ET specials in smaller sizes, white on #2 and #4 hooks, small glow shrimp, and Eppinger's little Rex spoons.

Good local spot for redfish. The north end of Tampa Bay is the best place in the area for redfish now, he said.

### **Contact Information**

Captain Ray Markham, Backwater Promotions, 6674 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33710  
P: 941.723.2655E: Ray.Markham@gmail.com [www.captainraymarkham.com](http://www.captainraymarkham.com)



*Capt. Ray Markham*

**Club Favorite Recipes...**

**Alan Sewell's Slow-Cooked Beans and Franks**

*Serves 8*

**Ingredients**

1c chicken broth  
3/4c ketchup  
1/3c molasses (not the back-strap type of molasses)  
1/3c brown sugar  
2 tsp dijon mustard  
1 tsp cider vinegar  
1 tsp hot sauce  
1 tsp chili pepper  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp cayenne pepper  
8 slices bacon cut crosswise  
1 onion chopped  
2 garlic cloves minced  
2 cans pinto beans, drained  
2 cans navy beans, drained  
8 good quality hot dogs cut in 1 inch pieces

**Cooking instructions**

Mix first ten items in bowl, set aside  
  
Cook bacon, onions, and garlic until onions are softened.  
  
Add sauce to mixture and bring to boil.  
  
Transfer sauce mixture, beans and franks to a slow-cooker.  
  
Cook 4 hours on high.  
  
Enjoy.

*Alan*

**More Inshore Fly Fishing Tips from Capt. Ray Markham**

*From the **March, 2011 issue** of *On The Fly**

Pay attention to conditions. When you catch fish, take note of the conditions and that will tell where why and where the fish are "supposed" to be in the future. It's an inexact science, for sure, but better than nothing.

Ray revisits his productive spots two weeks later when, with moon's help, tide stages and currents are more likely to be the same.

Markham said his favorite book for planning fishing trips is The Florida Sportsman Fishing Planner. A new volume comes out each year and provides month-by-month tide charts and the maximum flow times throughout Florida.

'It's not about spots. It's about the level of the tides,' he said. Plan to fish a series of redfish locations, arriving there just before the main push of current.

But even if water levels and tide stages are perfect, Markham said, be aware that s\_\_t happens. Like, maybe a crotch rocket screams by and the jockey is oblivious to the fact that you're fishing and he's breaking the law running in a no-motor zone, or that he's too close to a shore line or in a go-slow manatee zone.

Markham would not name any names but he said one time he had been patiently stalking a school of redfish for an hour. He got a nice red on the line, but a tower boat captain saw his bent rod and called in seven more tower boats to fish his spot.

We feel your pain, Capt. Ray Markham. You can vent at Suncoast Fly Fishers anytime.



## Tying Bench – Layne Smith’s Skeleton Frog

*Or, how to catch the biggest bass on the Chassahowitzka*



### Materials

Hook: 3366 or Gamakatsu B10S Stinger hook, size#2/0.  
Thread: Danville Flat-waxed Nylon (olive or match frog)  
Leg frame: Articulated shanks large (you will need 4) Legs  
Feet: Legs Alive (2 or 3 colors to match)  
Joint/Spreader: Nylon-coated SS wire / ¼” x 2” piece of 3mm closed cell foam.  
Body/Head: Big Bopper dubbing in Frog, Perch etc.  
Eyes: 8mm Fisch Eyes, Croc Eyes, or solid animal eyes.  
Cement: Solarez UV Resin and your favorite CA Cement (super glue, Zap-a-Gap)

### Tying Sequence

1. Place an articulated shank in vise (gap side up). Starting at bend where shank-ends touch each other, cover loop with thread wraps ending at the “tag end” of the shank.
2. Cut 4 strands of each color of Legs Alive and bunch them together. Take the “bunch” of legs and fold over shank in “v” created by “tag end” and tie down with several wraps of thread. End with a few wraps past “tag end” on longer end of shank near the eye. Do a 3-turn whip finish and cut thread. Coat wraps with UV Resin..
3. Take another shank and pass “tag end” through the eye of leg shank AWAY FROM YOU. Take leg out of vise and replace new shank in vise tag end up. Repeat Step 1. Cut a pair of legs from hank and attach to new shank and wrap back to loop. Wrap thread forward to shank eye. Grab both legs together and proceed to overwrap thread in closed wraps to shank eye. Tie off and whip finish. Cut thread, coat with UV Resin and cure.
4. Repeat steps 1 thru 3 for other leg only when adding upper part of this leg, bring tag end of shank through eye TOWARDS YOU. Finish leg as in Step 3.
5. Insert hook in vise and cover with a heavy base wrap (about three times up and down hook shaft) ending up just above hook barb as your starting point. At this point tie in the ¼” piece of closed cell foam securely.
6. Cut a piece of nylon coated wire about 3” long and fold in half then lay the loop over tag end of foam allowing ends to protrude back past hook bend. Fold tag end of foam over toward hook eye and secure firmly with thread wraps.
7. Fold legs of wire loop forward toward hook eye and slide finished legs (one each side) onto wire making sure the short “tag ends” of the upper legs face outward.
8. Measure wire loop to an eyes width behind hook eye and trim off excess. Run a bead of super glue over base wrap down hook shank lay wire loop ends down on top of hook and wrap down securely with a number of wraps. Make sure to cover end of wire so future thread work will not be cut accidentally.
9. Grab a hank of bullfrog dubbing and attach to far side of hook Repeat for near side and also the top. Compress just like you were stacking deer hair.
10. Repeat with slightly smaller bunches this time just on the sides. Compress again and repeat with even smaller bunches one last time. By this time you should be at the hook eye so compress one last time and whip finish. Coat thread wraps with UV Resin and cure.
11. Take fly out of vise and start to trim, first flatten the bottom and open the hook gap, then trim away sides and top in curved shape to create frog body. Make sure to leave a collar at back (like a Dahlberg Diver) to give frog a diving action.
12. Attach eyes by notching out holes in sides of dubbing for recessed eyes; fill notches with CA Cement, press in eyes, coat with UV Resin and cure.

All materials can be purchased at [Fly Tyers Dungeon](#).

## Tying Bench – Bruce Evensen Mini Toad



*Thanks to Bill Scarola for providing the list and materials and tying sequence*

### **Mini toad materials**

Hook- size 6-4

Tail- White bucktail. Maribou, or Steve Ferrar

Body- EP fibers, colors, green

Eyes- bead chain and or mono eyes

Thread- flat wax, same color as body

### **Tying sequence**

- 1- Wrap thread on hook from hook eye to bend.
- 2- Tie in eyes just behind hook eye eyes will rotate fly so hook pt. rides up as in a Clouser pattern.
- 3- Tie in tail material, just ahead of hook bend, length about 1 1/4" of hook shaft length.
- 4- Tie body material so fibers stick out to the sides. Hold in place with figure 8 thread wraps.
- 5- Flatten out body fibers and trim in a tapered position, wider at the tail and narrowing at the eyes.

## Tying Bench – Bruce Evensen Crab



*Materials and sequence by Bill Scarola*

### **Crab materials**

Hook, 4-6

Eyes, bead chain or bar bell eyes

Tail, Maribou in tan and white

Body, EP fibers in browns, tans

Thread, flat wax, tan and or green

### **Tying Sequence**

- 1- Eyes, tie in behind hook eye on top of shank.
- 2- Tail add maribou. Tie in at back of hook shank just ahead of the bend.
- 4- In front of tail tie in a small clump of contrasting dark brown or orange fibers to represent egg material.
- 5- Body, tie in body fibers in small clumps and push together to form full body starting behind bead eyes. Keep materials on top shank.
6. Fill in small clumps of fiber to reach hook bend. Use figure 8 wraps to secure each clump.  
(NOTE: Material should lie flat on top of shank. Comb or brush material to flatten and pull it toward the sides.
7. Trim body fibers so they are wider at the hook bend.

## Darryn Manley is restoring a flats boat for our PHWFF program

*Club members are helping fund this project. Pass the word!*



*By Darryn Manley*

I have been greatly inspired by the generosity of the Suncoast Fly Fishers club. Never have I met a group of people so passionately determined to share their love of fly fishing with the world.

In that spirit I came up with the idea to start a small charitable project. I would like to restore a small flats boat and donate it to our club's

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing chapter.

This will be no small project. The boat is very broken and will have to be rebuilt from the hull up. But I have a lot of faith that it will be a beautiful boat when I am done.

I have a **GoFundMe** account opened for the project. I hope you will take a minute to look at the page. I also hope that even if you do not want to donate, or can't, that you will share this project with other people outside the club. The more people who hear about my project the more likely our favorite Vets will get an awesome boat!

Lastly, I will do all of the restoration for now from my own pocket. If I am unable to raise enough money to build what I am positive is a totally safe and reliable boat, then I will simply donate whatever money I could raise straight to PHWFF.

*Darryn*



*Trailer glitch on the way home*



### The Plan

If you donate \$30 or more you're awesome and I will add a decal to the boat with your name and all others who donated so the veterans at Project Healing Waters will know who was thinking of them.

If you donate \$100 you will get a 1 day trip for you and a friend, on this boat before I donate it. If needed I will provide rods, lures, bait, and I will be your personal driver for the day.

If you donate \$1,000 or more you can call me anytime you want and we will set up a fishing day (unlimited uses) for the rest of my time in Tampa.

If we reach \$5,000 total I will open a Facebook page for the restoration.

If we do not raise enough to build a safe and reliable boat all donations will go to Project Healing Waters anyway as a cash donation. Thank you! Let's give those veterans a badass boat!!

*DM*



Pat Damico, Grandson Jonathan Target Montana Cutthroat Trout



Capt. Pat Damico, granddad doing what granddads do



Jonathan Damico, grandson, cut from the same cloth, with a huge Slough Creek cutthroat.

Snowbirder Jack Madden: Six-pound Missouri rainbow

I am attaching a foto of an almost six-pound rainbow that I was afraid would break my little homemade bamboo rod. That's a Missouri trout and one that I certainly didn't expect to catch. Unfortunately, it died but. But fortunately it tasted really good!

I expect to be at the (January) trash and treasures meeting and, hopefully all events of the club in the first three months of the year. I will stay in touch and let you know how things progress.

I still haven't caught a saltwater fish on a fly though I've tied hundreds of saltwater flies and tried my best to be successful. I'm just not!

Jack



Dennis Marquis: Bass killer bluegill fly



Went fishing the Cresse ponds near the RV park. Bass and pickerel were hitting small baitfish patterns. I lost mine in the trees. I noticed all these small bluegills so I went home and tied this fly. I call it my *Bass Killer*.

Dennis

## Dennis Marquis: Fly fishing from a RecVee



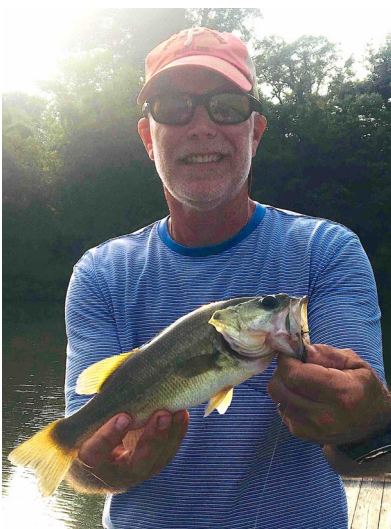
*Otter Falls*

As we started heading east towards coastal New Jersey and the start of the fall striper season we stopped just past the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia. We took a sightseeing drive and found Otter Creek just 15 minutes from the park. I took a walk along the lake to where a man-made stone dam allowed Otter Creek to flow over it into a deep-water pool before running onto a shallow stream. I thought, what the heck, let me cast a small blue popper into the pool. My fly hit the stone dam and “plopped” into the spill of water hitting the pool. First strip out of the foam and this chunky blue gill crashed the popper, so much so that I was surprised and almost lost the fish. Cindy brought her chair over and watched me catch blue gill after blue gill – I had a blast. These guys were hungry! We came back

the next night and repeated the party. This little pool made my week, one I won’t soon forget.

Next, we headed to Williamsburg, VA. We love to tour the colonial town and talk about colonial life with the “live history” participants. We visited with and learned how to make wigs, shoes, fine furniture, wood trim, bricks, molded and forged metal. This was our third time to the village, visiting twice in the past when the boys were much younger. If you wish, you can order a handmade authentic reproduction musket for \$25,000 with a 10 year wait list.

A short distance from the RV park was the York River State Park, which included a pond stocked with bass and blue gills. I thought, could this be the trip where I finally get rid of the large mouth “skunk” that has followed me ever since becoming a fly fisher? Cindy and I went to fish the pond one evening as the sun started to set. I picked a “good spot” and she went down further away from me. I hadn’t even made a cast yet, when I heard her yell, “I got one!”. Luckily, I had bought her a set of fish pliers, which she used to remove the lure and set the bass free.



*A long overdue first for Dennis*

I got busy, but to no avail. Meanwhile, I hear for a second time, “I got another one!”. Hmmm, so what did I do? I went to her spot and eased her out of the way. Then it finally happened, while fishing a cone headed woolly bugger, I felt a small interruption in the fly’s progress and thought I had snagged something. I lifted the rod and realized I had a fish. While it was not the biggest largemouth bass, for me it was a long overdue first.

Next month, I hope to be able to write about coastal NJ stripers, as I will be able to fish the back water estuaries from Cape May up through Brigantine. As you may remember from an earlier article, I cut my fly-fishing teeth in these waters.

*Dennis*



*Next month, Cape May and north*



## Tampa Bay Times : Captain's Corner

### Capt. Pat Damico: Floating weeds, grass hinder fly fishing



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](http://captpatdamico.com) or (727) 504-8649. Fly fisherman Pat Damico runs charters in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at [captpatdamico.com](http://captpatdamico.com) and (727) 504-8649.

## Bob Morrison : How-to

***Bob is recovering from a fall. Here are a couple of his oldie but goodie how-to tips appropriate for our September freshwater outing on the Chassahowitzka River.***



### **Can you say long shank hook?**

It's hopper time in fresh water, since grasshoppers are full-grown now. Some are huge. I saw one that was over four inches long. It was a yellowish tan in color, with black and white rings on the abdomen. Tie one on a long-shanked streamer hook, and try it over there by the weeds and stumps. On a related topic, Lefty Kreh recommended using long-shanked streamer hooks for tying popping bugs for use in both fresh and salt water. Lefty said that long-shanks will result in more hookups, better hookups, and better popping action as well.

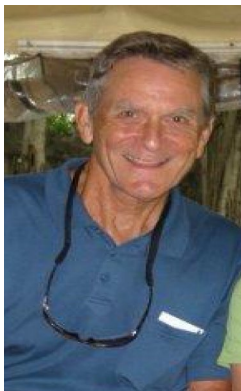
### **Did somebody say "terrestrials"**

I've noticed that after a rain there are usually a lot of them that have been washed off the trees and into the water. These can include hoppers, beetles, ants, palmetto bugs, and bees. I've also seen washed-out mice, frogs, salamanders, and anole lizards. Try them all, and see what happens.

*Go get 'em and good luck, Bob*



## Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover



**Cough, cough** –Red tide is taking a huge toll on Gulf fishes. By executive order snook and redfish are now catch-and-release only in September from Anna Maria Island to Collier County. It's in effect until the next FWC Commission meeting, which starts Sept. 26. Yeah, worrisome. ([The Fishing Wire](#))

**We'll be fishing this river soon** -- Chassahowitzka Springs is made up of a dozen springs that form the headwaters for the Chassahowitzka River, which is a short river that flows 5.6 miles from the headsprings to where it meets the Gulf of Mexico at Chassahowitzka Bay in Citrus County, Florida. ([Southwest Florida Water Management District](#))

**Okay, but where are the bass and bream?** – Here's another nice overview of the Chassahowitzka with a tip on where our freshwater trophies are to be found. ([Citrus County Chronicle](#))

**And which flies will you use on The Chaz?** – Quoting now, “Let the fly's rubber legs, hackle, and hair provide subtle movement and the illusion of life during the pause, then “pop” the fly again. When a bass attacks in a sudden explosion, wait for the fly to disappear, and then set the hook hard...” ([Fly Fisherman](#))

**I'll take great relationships for \$500, Alex** -- What do fly fishing and craft beer have in common? Well, hey, that would be the Florida Sportsman Expo. ([Florida Sportsman](#))

**Something makes me think of Joan Wolff** – “As the competitors in the 2016 Flycasting World Championships arrived at their hotel in Neljarve, Estonia, some noticed a 12-year-old girl jumping on the hotel's trampoline.” H/Ts for SFFer Joe Corr and TBFFC's Leigh West. ([New York Times](#), [SF Chronicle](#))

**I like the first rule especially** – “We know that fly fishing is typically a solitary sport but there is bound to come a time when you run into other people, and you don't want to leave with a bad experience. Here we go through a few rules, obvious and unwritten, to ease you into the basics of fly fishing etiquette.” H/T Jack Collins. ([Stillwater Anglers](#))

**How much does a 350 horsepower outboard cost?** -- Well, if you want Yamaha's new 350 horsepower offshore model, you'll spend about \$45,000 for each one you put on the transom of your go-fast boat. Evinrude's two-stroke 90-horsepower may be all you need for your bay boat, though. Captain C. A. Richardson of [Flats Class TV](#) likes it a lot. ([Angler's Journal](#))

**Top 10 fly fishing magazines** -- It's good to see *Southern Saltwater Fly Fishing* on the list. ([Feedspot Blog](#))

**The fastest growing segment of fly fishing industry?** According to the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF), 31 percent of U.S. fly-fishers are women. ([Robb Report](#))

**I have serious doubts**– Is it possible that there is a fly that is so good that it's unfair? “He found that no matter what he did, the fish would move large distances to eat this material. No skill was required to catch the fish. In other words, the bait took the challenge out of fly fishing. Really? ([Fishingbaitworld.co.uk](#))

###

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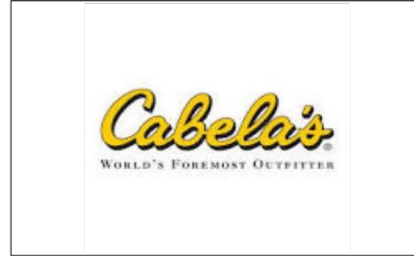
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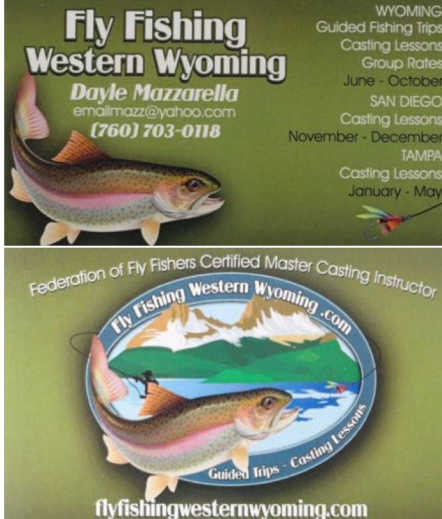


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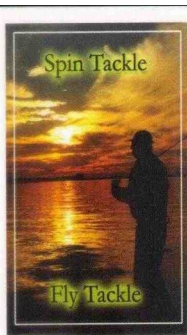
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