

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



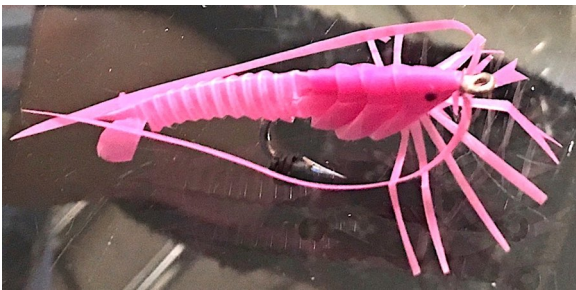
Woody's snook at Mobbly Bayou

P11



Fort DeSoto Chili

P9



Recognize this fly?

P12



Renzetti Fly Fair

P14



2018 Club Tournament Champs P8

*Trash 'n' Treasures Meeting
Thursday, January 17. Come early!
Auction starts at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday Outing - Weedon Island*



SFF President Letter – January 2019

Hello Everyone,

Happy New Year Everyone! May 2019 bring you all good health and happiness.

We finished 2018 strong with our Chili cook off; 46 in attendance, including 4 from the Mangrove Club. How cool is that?

Then we had a fantastic Casting Clinic sponsored by the TBFF Club and led by Dale Mazzarella & Pat Damico. See Tom's article following. Thank you all. **Look for another one in March.**

It's time to work a new calendar. Fill in the dates, plan for attendance and work your plan. Let me know if I or the Board of Directors can help.

Bob Burkard has done a fantastic job with the Google calendar on our website. Check it out and be ready for what's coming.

2019 means **Fly Tying** (Bruce's studio every Monday Night), **Fly Fishing** (Every Saturday after our General Meeting and the **Everglades** the last weekend in April), **Education** (Knowledgeable speakers at our general meetings, Two Casting Clinics) and **Our Annual HOG ROAST**. Just to mention a few things.

The January General Meeting is our Trash'n Treasures Auction. Our auctioneer, Alan Sewell, is a sight to behold. **BRING YOUR CONTRIBUTION AT 5:30. WE WILL START AT 6:30** instead of 7:00 to give us extra time. Bring items you no longer use and make room for the new treasures you can get. There will be some silent auction items. **REMEMBER THIS IS A VITAL FUND-RAISER** to support Our Club, so please be generous.

We will also introduce our **Nominating Committee** for our elections in March. If you are asked to serve, please give it serious consideration. You could be the **Treasurer** we need to fill the vacancy left by **Karen Warfel** who has done a tremendous job of organizing, tracking and monitoring our finances. Thank you, Karen!

Never lose your sense of adventure.

George

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

PS: When it rains, it pours. Dave Barson, our monthly raffle manager, has had a sad time. Ellen, his wife of many years, died. Then he fell and broke his leg. He is a patient (room 261) at Palm Garden, 3480 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, FL 33761. Call him at 407-973-7895. He said he misses us greatly and would love to see you or hear from you. Visiting hours are 8 am to 8 pm weekdays and 9 to 5 on weekends.

GHH

Meetings, Outings, & More

Thursday, January 17 Meeting – Trash ‘n’ Treasures

- Bring gear to donate for the auction. Auctioneer is Alan Sewell
- Start arriving at 5:30 pm with your wares for sale at the live auction, led by none other than Alan Sewell
- Bring a credit card, check, and/or cash for some really good deals.
- Get high on coffee and pastries
- The business part will start at 6. The auction starts at 6:30
- Also there will be coffee and pastries.
- Watch for the sign-up sheets for the January outing at Weedon island Preserve and for the February outing at Lake Walsingham.
- Did you renew your membership in September? See Treasurer Karen Warfel at the meeting or go to the SFF website. Complete and send your application or renewal to the club’s PO Box #.
- Elections soon: The club nominating committee will be introduced at the January meeting. It will select candidates for three board seats and for the positions of Treasurer and Secretary for 2019-2020. Nominations will be accepted through the February club meeting. Elections will take place at the March meeting. See the chart below. Nominations and votes will be held for the positions in bold type.
- Newly elected (or re-elected) Board members and officers will take office in April

Position	2019-20	2018-19
President	George Haseltine	George Haseltine
Vice President	Rick Warfel	Rick Warfel
Secretary	OPEN**	Dick Miekka
Treasurer	OPEN**	Karen Warfel
Prior President	NA	NA
Board Member	Eligible for reelection	Ryan Sollars
Board Member	Bruce Evensen	Bruce Evensen
Board Member	Eligible for reelection	Cliff Nigh
Board Member	Eligible for reelection	Quin Berry*
Board Member	Bill Scarola	Bill Scarola
Board Member	David Redd	David Redd
Board Member	Bob Burkard	Bob Burkard
Board Member		

Saturday, January 19 Outing – Weedon Island Preserve in St. Pete

- Meet up for lunch –John Craig’s Low Country Boil -- at the picnic shelter adjacent to the main parking lot.
- The longest ladyfish wins the outing prize. Measure and shoot a picture.
- Also measure and photograph redfish, snook, and seatrout you catch to enter them into the 2019 tournament.

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

Usually it’s the Saturday after the third Thursday of every month in different locations, saltwater and freshwater, with a club-provided picnic lunch at noon.

Membership

Suncoast Fly Fishers currently has 132 members including 19 family members and 6 honorary members. Annual dues are \$15, payable in September.

Welcome new members

Rebecca Fortin, Frank Molash, Robbie Howell, Andrew Norman, Michael Hobson, Warren Shane, Jr., and Steve Udovich

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.

Meetings, Outings, & More



Thursday, February 21 Meeting – Robert Fischer, “Fly Fishing from a Motorcycle”

- Member Robert Fischer loves his Harley and he loves his fly fishing.
- Robert will talk about all the water he has fished around the country on his motorcycle excursions.

Saturday, February 23 Outing – Walsingham Lake Park, Largo

- Targets: Longest bass and longest bluegill
- Meet up for lunch at a Picnic Pavilion on the east side of the lake.

Sunday, February 24, Teaching Fly Tying at East Lake Woodlands Country Club

- Contact Bob Burkard for details. Robertburkard9@gmail.com

Saturday, March 2, Casting Clinic, St. Pete Beach

- Free to FFI members. Suncoast will host breakfast & lunch.
- TBFF and other club members are welcome.
- More in the February newsletter.

Saturday, March 30, Hog Roast and Silent Auction.

Contact Myron Hansen... hansen3@tampabay.rr.com

- Fly tiers, we are looking forward to your contributions. Member-tied flies are always very popular.
- This year we are asking each member to donate ONE set of flies from 6 up to 12 flies.
- Tie a set of your “GO TO” flies or your “BEST” flies.

Check for updates on the club's online [Calendar](#)

Suncoast Fly Fisher News ‘n’ Notes

Ellen Goldberg Barson, RIP

Suncoast Fly Fishers extend their condolences to member Dave Barson for the loss of his wife Ellen. She passed away Saturday, December 1, 2018 after a long struggle with Multiple Sclerosis.

UPDATE: 2019 Florida Fly Fishing Expo

Tom Gadacz, president of the Florida Council of Fly Fishers International, reports that at the December meeting the board decided not to have a full Expo schedule in 2019 but rather to start planning for major Expo to be held at Plantation on Crystal River in late October or early November of 2020. They left open the possibility of having a scaled-down expo this year.



This is the design of the new display table cover for the Florida Council.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Report. Volunteers needed

Our veterans are looking forward to a new year of fly fishing. We have 8 veterans starting on a national rod building contest sponsored by PAC BAY, for PHWFF veterans. Rods have to be finished by the first week in April and sent to PAY BAY for judgmentBay Pines has so many veterans waiting for our classes, that they want to start another class on Thursdays. See me after SFF meetings for info on volunteering.

Alan Sewell, chairman PHWFF committeeContinued on following page

Suncoast Fly Fisher News 'n' Notes

Feb. 9: A Fly Fishing Clinic for Women by Women



- Learn the basics of fly fishing.
- Saturday, Feb. 9, 9:30 am - 2 pm
- Picnic Island Park (Shelter 611)
- Go [here](#) for info and to register.
- Use your fly rod or one provided.
- Suitable for ages 16 on up. (Minors must be accompanied by participating parent or guardian.)
- Workshop limited to 25.
- \$40 fee includes lunch, goody bag, raffle ticket, fly fishing manual and one-year membership in the [Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club](#).

Questions? Contact Nanette O'Hara at oharacomm@gmail.com or phone (813) 428-3182

Everglades Canal Outing, April 26-28

SFF outing will be April 26th - 28th of April. I have 10 rooms reserved at Sunrise La Quinta Inn. I booked 2 different stay periods, since some of us like to fish more days. I have 4 rooms booked from the 24th - 28th. I have six rooms booked from the 26th - 28th. When you decide on your stay, call or e-mail me and I will give you the conformation number to change into your name. All rooms, after the first week in April, that are not taken will be cancelled. Plan your trip for great fishing.

Alan Sewell

FFI Learning Center: You're a member, so take advantage of the benefits

Casting Instruction: Skills Challenge, Teacher's Package

Comprehensive Fly Fishing Skills: Fly Fishing Reference Materials, Fly Fishing Knots

Conservation: Personal Conservation, Catch & Release Brochure

Fly Tying: Introduction to fly tying

Can you come to Cancun?

A good friend of mine, John Bilotta, is hosting a trip to the Yucatan. I can vouch for both John and the lodge. Bonefish, Baby Tarpon, and Permit are the targeted species. The price of \$3,500 dollars is for all 6-days of fishing, excluding transportation, tip, and one night in a Cancun hotel. I don't get anything out of this, I just think it is a great opportunity. People can reach John at (301) 357-0122. Visit the lodge website at costadecocos.com.

Dayle Mazzarella



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

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 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)

Join. Renew. Application
www.suncoastflyfishers.com

Review: December 8 at Fort DeSoto Park



Bob Burkard, co-chairman, Outing Committee

By Bob Burkard

Don Coleman Invitational, Fort DeSoto Park

I cannot think of a better way to have ended 2018 and to celebrate our Suncoast Fly Fishers club than to have participated in this year's Don Coleman Invitational at Fort DeSoto Park. The weather was perfect, the food was amazing, and a few of our participants caught fish. I have been a member of Suncoast Fishers since moving to Florida five years ago and I really appreciate the comradery, the sharing of knowledge, and the friendship that I receive from our members

As our website states: The overriding mission of our club is to promote member and visitor involvement in Fly Fishing, Fly Casting, Fly Tying, and Marine Conservation in a family fun atmosphere. This outing is an example of how we are fulfilling this mission: Is there any place else where can you enjoy great food, listen to and tell fantastic fishing stories, fish in crystal clear waters, and continue to learn more about fly fishing in Florida? I don't think so.

With that said the overwhelming winner of our 2018 Chili Contest was Bob Morrison. Darryn Manley showed us why Fort DeSoto is one of our club's favorite fishing locations. He caught a 16 ¼ inch trout and a 17-inch red on a dark green and white Clouser with bead eyes.

Bob



David Redd, Co-chair, outing Committee



Hilton Bruch, co-chair, outing committee



Darryn Manley's Seatrout

Bill Scarola: The red that got away

We started fishing at 9, at low tide, but by 11 or so the mangroves were flooding. I threw an EP minnow in gray over white / a red breast. and he hit! It pulled 10 to 15 yards of line off the reel. I got it back and moved the redfish closer to my kayak and I got a look at it. But then he ran again toward the mangroves, and I tried to stop it but the hook pulled out! I'd guess he was at least 18 inches, maybe-20. Still gets your heart pumping!! *Bill*

2018 CLUB OUTING TOURNAMENT WINNERS

<i>Species</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Leader to date</i>	<i>Outing (Month)</i>
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/sunset/sunrise (June)
Longest redfish	17"	Darryn Manley	Fort DeSoto Park (December)
Longest ladyfish	13"	Jack Cason	Fort DeSoto Park (May)
Longest seatrout	18.5"	David Redd	Pinellas Point (January)

Don Coleman Memorial Outing at Fort DeSoto Park



Chili Cook-Off King Bob Morrison



Fixing the fixins. Bob Burkard, Laura Mertz



Dennis Marquis fishes Arrowhead flats.



Alan Sewell stirs the pot. Smitty likes what he smells.



Exploring Bunces Pass sandbar



Kevin Kelly is a "think before you act" fly fisher.



Comrades in arms, l to r Dennis Marquis, Linda Labin, Kevin Kelly, Barry Salzman, Duane Mertz, Andrew Norman, Bill AuCoin and Sol Herz.



Mangrove Coast Fly Fisher joined the fun fishing the Arrowhead Picnic Area flats.

Preview: January 19 Outing, Weedon Island Preserve

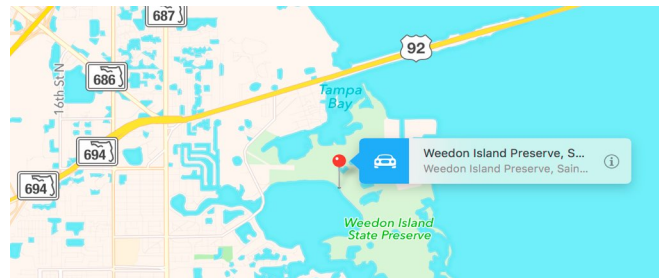
By Bob Burkard

This location is one of our members favorite fishing destinations, an outing where you can wade, kayak, or fish by boat. Our target fish is ladyfish, but I also love this area for trout and snook. (Measure all, shoot pictures for proof, and enter them in the club's annual outing tournament.)

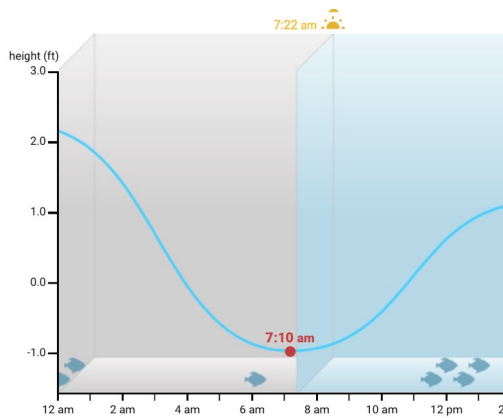
For our lunch John Craig will make his famous Low Country Boil with shrimp, sausage, potatoes and bay seasoning.

Directions:

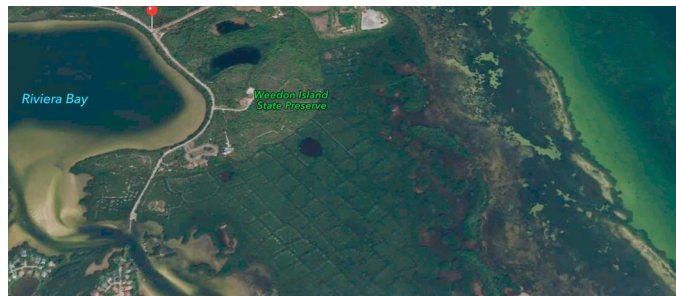
- Take Gandy Boulevard East
- About one mile east of 4th Street North turn right on San Martin Blvd N.E (just east of the Dog Track) Turn left onto Weedon Drive N.E.
- Turn left at the entrance to the preserve then continue to visitor's center or kayak launch turnaround or visitor's center.



Apple Maps



January 19: We have a very low tide at daybreak followed by a steep incoming. *Tides4Fishing.com*



Weedon Drive dead-ends at the kayak launch turnaround. You can wade in there and fly-fish the waters north or south or walk to and wade in at the Tampa Bay shoreline via the **Lookout Point Trail**. It's about a 10-minute walk from the visitor center. Lunch is at the pavilion on the north edge of the main visitor-center parking lot.

The colorful history of Weedon Island includes homesteaders, speakeasies, a Hollywood movie studio, and a 1930s airport. Weedon Island Preserve's rich human history began with prehistoric peoples who thrived on the abundant fish, shellfish, plants, and mammals of the wetlands, islands and estuaries of Tampa Bay. These people evolved into the Weeden (alternate spelling) Island culture that lasted some 800 years. Weedon Island Preserve is owned by the citizens of Florida and managed by Pinellas County government. Weedonislandpreserve.org

Dennis Marquis: Indian Key, Mullet Key Magic

Back in town for the winter, snowbirder Dennis Marquis is catching trout-redfish-snook with gurglers and seaducers around Indian Key and Fort DeSoto Park.



This yellow mouth swallowed Dennis' yellow gurgler.



Seaducers for the flats



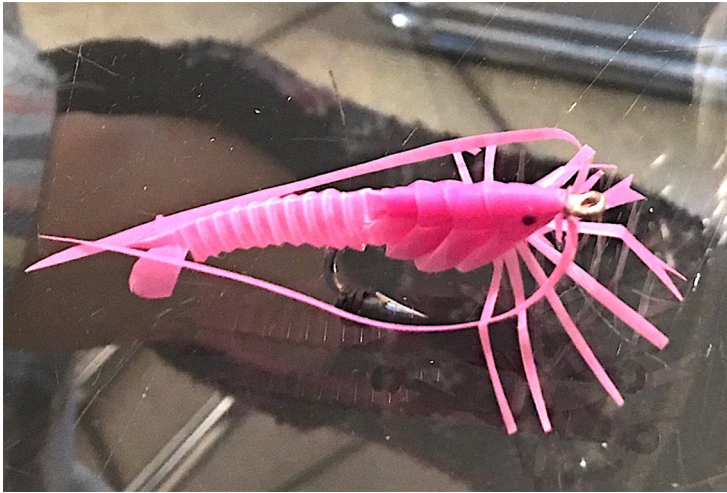
Ben Marquis, home for the holidays, with a docklight snook caught on his schminnow fly.

Woody Miller: Mobbly Bayou Oyster Bed Snook

Photo by Gary Sundberg. Woody and Gary fished the Mobbly Bayou Wilderness Preserve in Oldsmar in early January.



Tom Jones: Snook on his Shrimp-Lookalike Soda Straw Fly



Tom Jones worked some of his secret St. Pete dock lights in late December and scored snook with his soda straw shrimp, a lifelike imitation that he ties (cuts with scissors, actually) from plastic drinking straws

Looooooooowwww Tide Redfish at Cypress Point Park

That's Ken Moser of the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club with a redfish he caught on low (very low!) tide just before Christmas at Cypress Point Park. Thanks to TBFFC's Walt Durkin for the photo and for his insights into fly fishing those extremely low tides. Walt shared some of his secrets at the April 2018 meeting. Here's the [write-up](#).



Pat Damico, Tom Gadacz: Casting Clinic, Picnic Island Park

It is Saturday 6 a.m., dark and raining. The radar screen for Tampa shows several fronts skirting the area until late this morning. Will anyone show up for the casting clinic? Too late to cancel! At 7 Dayle, Pat, Chris and I arrive at Shelter 611 at Picnic Island to lay out the casting course.

This year the casting clinic was hosted by the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club (TBFFC). This is an annual event alternating between the TBFFC and Suncoast Fly Fishers. This event started in 2007 by Pat Damico, FFI Master Certified Instructor (MCI) and at times is a bi-annual event. Picnic Island Park provided adequate space for the casting stations however a short-lived rain did present a little challenge but that did not discourage club members from taking advantage of several hours of excellent casting instruction. Dayle Mazzarella, MCI, designed the program and course. We had several excellent assistants including Pat Damico, MCI, Ken Zadoyko, MCI, and Chris O'Byrne, CI, plus two well-known instructors from the Tampa Club, Leigh West and Steve Parker.



Leigh West demonstrates distance casting



Master Casting Instructor Dayle Mazzarella (right) didn't let a little rain keep him from a fly casting show-and-tell.

Beginning at 8, Patty and Bruce Anderson registered the attendees and signed up new FFI members. The casting clinic is primarily staffed by FFI Certified Master Casting Instructors and Certified Casting Instructors. The casting clinics are free to all FFI members and \$35 for others which includes FFI membership. The club provided a breakfast of coffee and bagels and a light lunch of sandwiches,

chips, cookies and beverages. We had 30 attendees which included many new to saltwater fly fishing. These clinics have been a great way to increase FFI and club memberships and at this session we had 8 new members.

Dayle had the participants pair up and the morning session stressed basic casting fundamentals and drills to improve casting skills.

After lunch, Dayle reviewed some exercises to maintain muscle strength and balance. Members rotated every 30 minutes to 4 stations that included the saltwater quick cast, distance casting, accuracy and fighting fish. The casting clinic ended at 3 p.m.

It was a great session and provided FFI members an opportunity to improve their casting skills as a benefit of their membership.

Tom Gadacz: 2018 Renzetti Fly Fishing & Rod Building Fair



Lily Renzetti of Renzetti True Rotary Vises.

Renzetti sponsored its 6th Fair on December 7-8 and had a fantastic program with featured fly tiers, casting sessions, rod building, presentations, and book signings.

Saturday was opened with the Presentation of Colors by the local Boy Scout troop, an Invocation, and a special tribute to Lefty Kreh who made so many contributions to fly fishing and supported many past Renzetti events.

- Jon Cave and Bob Clouser had a fly casting school on Friday and several casting and a fly tying session on Saturday.
- Caley Smith and Sarah Gardner presented the women's casting session.
- Nick Curcione, David Olson, Raz Reid, and Eric Davis had two sessions covering hand casting, distance, and general casting.
- Bob Clouser had fly casting, tying, and book

signing sessions. Steve Farrar demonstrated several of his minnow and baitfish patterns.

- Frank Catino discussed lines and leaders.
- Eric Davis had several casting sessions and presentations on local fishing areas. Friday evening
- Duane DeFreeze the Executive Director of the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program discussed the adverse effects on Florida waters and the need to engage all groups to discuss solutions. The polarized views of many have hampered progress in addressing common solutions.
- Jay Murakoshi, Jeff Ward, Dave Schmezer, Ron Winn, Scott Stryker, Gerry Herrera, Kevin Arculeoo, Steve Bailey and Josh Boyles were among the Legacy Tiers.



Caley Smith and Sarah Gardner, women's casting seminar presenters.

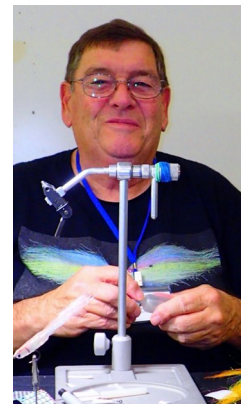


Legacy Tier Jay Murakoshi

The proceeds from the event went to support the work of the Merritt Island Wildlife Association and Bull Sugar Alliance. There were many exhibitors which included Casting for Recovery Fly Fishing, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, and Fly Fishers International.

Tom

Tom Gadacz
President, Florida Council, Fly Fishers International



Steve Farrar, Farrar Fibers

Tampa Bay Times Captain's Corner



Capt. Pat Damico: Avoiding Red Tide with your fly rod

Much of the area I would usually fish still has some Red Tide issues that are in a state of flux. Wind, water temperature, tides and nutrients keep us guessing to find suitable areas to fish. Many of our recent trips have been to rivers where a fresh water influx has the water in pristine condition. Some areas of Tampa Bay are free of this nuisance, but marginal areas are a constant challenge. One of my best indicators of healthy water is the presence of baitfish. Predator fish and fish eating birds have to eat to live. Their activity is a key. Baitfish always seem to be present around bridges, some of ours have very deep water, and all have large supports that harbor bait. With a fly rod, even with sinking tip lines, full sinking lines and weighted flies fishing deep is a challenge even when we have fish located. Having your fly in front of a fish's nose becomes more difficult, but necessary, as water gets deep. We have found that docks close to bridges have been very effective especially during lower tides. Snook, trout and reds are rarely in the extreme shallows but seem most prevalent in the deepest water of the dock. The low tide means careful casting far under the dock and allows our weighted baitfish pattern flies to then be worked near the deeper pilings where we have been finding most fish. Longer docks will have more deep supports and older structures have more subsurface hangouts to harbor baitfish and their predators. Cast under and work around boat lifts. A large boat on a lift usually means deeper water. Use the moving tide to effectively work the area, casting up tide to allow your flies to swing into the fish holding hot spot.

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.

Suncoast Fly Fishers Favorite Recipes...

Alan Sewell: New Orleans Clam Chowder

Ingredients

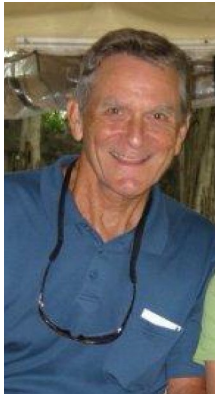
2 bacon slices, cut into 1/4-inch pieces
1 onion, chopped
3 celery ribs, chopped
1 bay leaf
1/2 teaspoon fresh thyme leaves
1 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 cup white wine or beer
2 medium russet potatoes
2 cups milk
3 - 4 cans chopped clams, undrained
1/4 cup parsley, for garnish
ground black pepper

Note: You can always use more bacon. Old Bay can be used instead of pepper.

Cooking instructions

Cook bacon in cast iron oven, until crisp. Remove bacon with slotted spoon to a paper towel lined plate. Add onion, celery, bay leaf, and thyme to bacon drippings. Add 1/2 teaspoon salt, cover, and sweat vegetables, over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until softened. Remove lid, add wine and cook uncovered until reduced by half. Add potatoes, milk, and juice from the canned clams to the pot. Bring to a simmer and cook reducing the heat if necessary, until potatoes are soft. Transfer 2 cups of mostly solids from pot to a blender, and process until smooth. Add liquid if needed to aid in processing. Return pureed mixture to oven, add clams and bring to a simmer, and add pepper to taste. Stir in bacon, parsley, salt, and remove bay leaf. Garnish with parsley.

Bill AuCoin : Flyfisher Flyover



Commercial fishers aren't too happy: The President has signed the Modern Fish Act. Federal fisheries law now recognizes recreational fishing, not just commercial fishing. Better data and management is coming. (He said, hopefully). ([American Sportfishing Association](#))

Did you hear about the wade fisher who walked into a manatee? Yeah, that would be me. Scared us both. Anyway, the latest survey shows more manatees. The best guess is between 7,520 and 10,280. The manatee population is recovering, it seems. ([The Fishing Wire](#))

Deepwater Horizon oil spill is the gift that keeps on giving. Sort of. Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) will receive \$1.5 million from an oil spill trust fund administered by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. The money will support local government projects to restore coastal habitat. Among the TBEP projects is one to promote tidal waters circulation and seagrass recovery at Fort DeSoto Park. ([The Fishing Wire](#))

Look after your old car and outboard motor: E15 is on its way. You won't get a warning at the gas pump, so here it is: *Never, ever, ever put E15 or E10 in an old outboard motor or auto.* Another concern is that if the gas stations put in E15 pumps, they'll do away with my favorite pump at WAWA: ethanol-free. ([Thinking Afield](#))

Lawbreakers: Scroll down to Pinellas. *Undersized. Under the influence. Not in season.* Same old, same old citations or warnings in FWC's weekly report. Also, check out Miami-Dade. A woman lost her pet, a lemur. At least she didn't release it into the Everglades like those Burmese python "pets." ([FWC](#))

What's the next best thing to catching a marlin on the fly? Answer: reading about catching a marlin on the fly. "I lift the flamboyant pink-and-white tube fly into a back cast and drop it in the wake slightly behind them. Both marlin attack. The larger one, more than 300 pounds, gets there first and engulfs the fly from above, no hook set required. The fish races straight away from the transom, taking 300 yards of backing faster than you can say 300 yards of backing." Read the whole thing. ([Angler's Journal](#))

Who knew? Geico's Gecko is a fly fisher. Usually, TV commercials that show fly fishing get it embarrassingly wrong. This one, not so much. ([You Tube](#))

What does SFF member Pat Damico have in common with jazz legend Dave Brubeck? It turns out that once upon a time Pat was fly casting from a resort shoreline. He heard a voice behind him. "Are you catching anything?" He turned around. Yeah, it was Brubeck, whose quartet was playing in the lounge. Take Five and listen to this oldie-but-goodie. Catching anything? ([You Tube](#))

From Robert Fischer: Cold Counsel for the Fly Fisher

Don't wear your waterproof jacket inside your waders. Last December while fishing in the cold rain I made the mistake of wearing my waterproof jacket inside my waders. The jacket worked great and funneled all the ice cold rainwater inside my waders where it soaked me from the waist down. I was miserable, don't do that.

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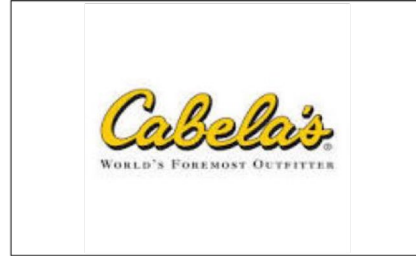
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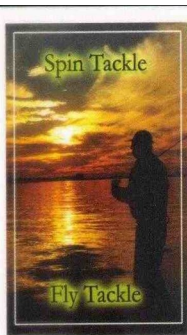
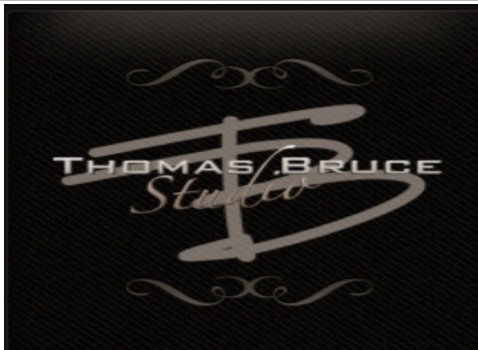
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