



The Prez Sez *by Ken Hofmeister*



HOOK A KID

Mash down the barb, remember the glasses, use the sunscreen, make it fun, and squeeze the action into short time frames. Take a look at Fly Fishing for Kids and Fly Tying for Kids (Amazon) says Pat Damico. He'd suggest that a bluegill is a great first target and that you can start out collecting a few bugs and aquatic critters before transitioning to flies. Pat adds that kids love fly tying and can tie a half hitch with a pen better than a whip finish tool.

I recently got a call from Al Pitcher, on a request from his grandson, Alex. Alex said: "Mr. Ken, we're not catching anything." I passed along words of wisdom from Julia, my granddaughter—"granddaddy, why don't we go where the fish are? You know, where they like to hang out." Of course, after Alex shared this tip with Al, they began catching sunfish.

Grandson Ryan was on the dock netting small crabs. We looked up the species in Aaron Adams book, Fly Fisherman's Guide to Saltwater Prey, and checked out the corresponding flies. That led us to the vise and a few patterns. Imagination is part of the package. So why not put horns on a spider or a propeller on a gurgler? Ever seen a "rainbow" (all the colors) Ada Potato?

Annie Hays knows what to do with a bow, a paddle, or a rod. She can tie and doesn't even have to lie when reporting on her catch. She works our SFF booths and is a young person we're all proud of. But look around our meetings and outings at the demographics. Our claim to diversity is the different medical procedures this band of old fogies has recently experienced!

Richard Oldenski was point person for getting SFF involved in working with twenty Boy Scouts in pursuit of their fly fishing merit badge at a recent Merit Badge University event held at Eckerd College. SFF members taught these scouts fly tying, fly casting, and fishing related first aid before taking them fly fishing on nearby ponds. All SFF members felt this was a most worthwhile event—hopefully to be repeated. See Richard for ways you can get involved.

Most of us come together out of a common passion for pursuing fish with a fly rod. Some get a bigger kick out of tying flies than catching fish; but we all have found something worthwhile in this sport. We sometimes wonder what we are leaving as a legacy—what we really want to pass along to family and friends. So I raise the question: "How we best pass on the passion for fly fishing?"

Successful fly fishers display a few common characteristics—they ask questions, take initiative, try new techniques, practice patience, and adapt. It seems that these same traits would serve us well in working with youngsters. Perhaps there is something better than catching a nice fish on a fly you just tied. How about watching a young person catch her first fish on a fly she just tied?

.....*Ken Hofmeister*

SFF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 18—Outing, Hillsborough River

August 1 - Casting Clinic at Ft DeSoto with Capt. Pat Damico

October 23/24 - FFF FL Council Conclave in Celebration, FL

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OUTINGS -REVIEWS & PREVIEWS by *Richard Oldenski*



July Outing - July 18, 2009 - Hillsborough River

June Outing - Where are the snook? They were not at the June outing, even though we fished their favorite feeding spots along the beaches, passes and mangrove shorelines at Ft. Desoto Park. Not one snook was hooked. We did catch a few trout, and Mark Craig won the prize with a 17 inch ladyfish. It was very, very hot, so we were happy to cool off in a shady picnic area to enjoy Mark Hays' spicy BBQ pork and burgers plus lots of cold watermelon. You should have been there!

July Outing - As the summer heat burns on, we look for cool places to fish. The Hillsborough River provides a shady, cool location for our July outing and an opportunity to catch sunfish and bass. Small boats can be launched at the Rotary Park on Fowler Avenue, while kayaks and canoes can be launched farther up the river at Trout Creek, Morris Bridge or Sergeant parks. Maps will be available at the July meeting. Plan on spending a relaxing morning fishing the shady banks of the wild and scenic Hillsborough River.

Lunch will be served at Noon at the picnic area at Trout Creek Park.

Recommended Flies for the July outing and Newsletter Reference for Instructions:

- Spiders and Beetles Feb. 2007 p. 8
- Woolly Bugger April 2008 p. 8
- Mighty Myakka Minnow July 2008 p. 8
- Little Brown River Clouser July 2008 p.9

Future Outing Previews:

August - Emerson Point
September - to be determined
October - to be determined

Fishing Tournament:

Snook - Ken Hofmeister - 22 inches
Bass - Woody Miller -16 inches
Sunfish - Joe Dials - 10 inches
Open Category - Mark Craig - Ladyfish - 17 inches

Program for the July 16, 2009 Meeting

David Chouinard moved to Tampa and opened The Tampa Angler Fly Shop on Hillsborough Ave. along with his partner Mike Saputo in the fall of 2008. Dave has a long history with running successful fly shops having previously owned The Fly Hatch in New Jersey which was one of the largest fly shops in the country. Dave is a published FFF certified casting instructor and a contract fly tyer and designer for Umpqua. Dave is a USCG certified captain and has been guiding for over 12 years.

This month, Dave's presentation, called "Fly Fishing Tips and Tricks" will cover many helpful tips that any fisherman will benefit from. It will cover equipment, fishing, boating, fishing etiquette, travel and knots. Don't miss this one!

July's Featured Fly Tyer:

Siobhan Archard will demonstrate tying techniques for cork and foam poppers. Just what you'll need for this month's outing on the Hillsborough River.

SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS Activities & Information

Federation of Fly Fishers

A note from FFF National Office

June 22, 2009
Dear FFF supporter,

We're writing to update you on the FFF Five Rivers Sweepstakes drawing. **The drawing date has been extended until we reach our 4000 ticket mark.** We're over half-way there, but still need to sell a few more tickets.

Please encourage your club, your FFF council, and your friends to purchase a ticket or two! They can be purchased online at www.fffgear.com or through your FFF club or council.

We will likely hit the 4000 ticket mark by the end of July (during conclave) and will hold the drawing at that time.

Thank you for your continued support of the FFF and for the great work of your clubs.

Sincerely,
Federation of Fly Fishers



Support the Federation of Fly Fishers and You'll be entered to win a 4 day, 5 night trip for 2 people at Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT
www.fiveriverslodge.com

- Each FFF council will draw a winning trip (15 trips) retail value \$5300.00
- Winners will also be entered into a drawing for a trip to Cinco Rios Lodge in Chile
- All winners will receive a \$1000.00 travel stipend.
- Other prizes will be drawn – Rods, Reels, and other Gear!
- All new FFF members will be entered in the drawing. Recruit a new member and you'll receive a ticket too!
- Proceeds will benefit FFF clubs, councils, and the national office.

\$20 = 1 ticket or \$100 = 6 tickets.
Winners will be notified by email.

Based on double occupancy, two anglers per guide, and availability. Tips, licenses and tackle not included. Trips may be taken during the 2009 & 2010 season. A minimum of 4000 tickets must be sold before winners are drawn. Federation of Fly Fishers is a 501c3 Non-profit organization
No purchase necessary, void where prohibited by law

Suncoast Fly Fishers Hats and Shirts

If you missed out on our Father's Day Special, now is the time to purchase your 2009 edition of the SFF Columbia fishing shirt or hat complete with embroidered club logo. The cost is \$40 for the shirt. Can't get to a meeting this summer, well then just send your order in and we will ship it to you. The colors and sizes are sage in medium and extra-large and banana in extra-large. Have plenty of shirts, then get a monogrammed Suncoast Flyfishers cap for only \$7. Send your request to:

Suncoast Flyfishers, P.O. Box 40821, St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821

Be sure to enclose your name and address along with the requested shirt or cap and a check or money order. **Please do not send cash.**

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SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS Activities and Information

Casting Clinic Saturday, August 1, 2009

It is time for another Casting Clinic for our Suncoast Fly Fishers members. Because of the summer conditions, we will begin at 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the East Beach turn around at Ft. DeSoto Park. Attendance has continued to increase and reports from members has always been very positive. In fact, your critique sheets never have had a negative comment! Enjoy one of the many benefits of your membership. This is open to all experience levels from those that never held a rod to advanced casters. If really advanced, we may invite you to join our teaching staff who give you the benefit of many different ways to hone your skills. Richard will have hot coffee and donuts to help open your eyes and get your enthusiasm to a keen level. Cold drinks will also be available though out the morning.

A sign up sheet will be available at our July meeting, or call me at 727-504-8649, so we have an idea of our attendance. Your SFFC and FFF dues must be current! If you need equipment, also make a note on sheet or call me.

Pat Damico, Certified Casting Instructor

New Fishing Licenses Requirements

Florida resident saltwater anglers who fish from shore or a structure affixed to shore, will need to buy a shoreline fishing license by August 1, 2009 (\$7.50 plus administrative and handling fees for a total of \$9.00) unless they have a regular resident saltwater fishing license. The new shoreline saltwater fishing license for residents goes on sale July 15, 2009. It provides all of the same exemptions as a regular license.

The new license applies only to Florida resident saltwater anglers who fish from shore. Resident anglers with the regular recreational saltwater license are covered, no matter where they fish for saltwater species in Florida. The state has always required nonresidents to have a license when fishing from shore, and they will still need to purchase a regular nonresident saltwater license.

See the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission website <http://myfwc.com/> click on Licenses/Permits, then go to Recreational Hunting & Fishing for complete rules and license costs.

Wading The Saltwater Flats With A Fly Rod and Random Thoughts From The Tying Bench By Don Coleman

Several months ago, we ran out of copies of this very popular and useful book by deceased member Don Coleman. With the original printing, SFF gave a copy of Don's book to all current and then new members when they joined the club. We have a new supply of these books; if you are a recent new member who did not receive a copy, please see John Rodgers at the meeting or call him at 727-278-4266.

Other members who would like an additional copy may purchase one for \$5.00. This book is loaded with excellent information and is a wonderful keepsake of a much missed member and friend of the club.

FLY TYERS

The 6:30 fly tying demonstration session prior to the meeting is a very popular feature. Members are always interested in new flies, different methods of tying old flies or just some well known fly that might not have been demonstrated in a while. Old tried and true patterns are new to new fly fishers and are very interesting to them. We need members who are willing to share their fly tying skills with your fellow members. If you would like to volunteer as a designated tyer, please see Myron Hansen at the meeting or call him at 727-393-5075.

SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS INFORMATION

FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

DUES NOTICES *by Joe Dail*

Club members receive dues renewal notices directly from the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF). Such dues should be paid directly to FFF, and you should NOT wait until Club dues are renewed in September. Since FFF memberships expire 12 months after they started, and all Club memberships expire at the same time (in September), the dues periods for the two organizations do not coincide, and it was decided that it would be simpler for the Club's volunteer treasurer, and that there would be less room for error, if members deal directly with FFF with respect to FFF dues. Accordingly, the Club collects FFF dues only from new members, which gives the Club credits toward incentive fly rods awarded by FFF to charter clubs for obtaining new members.

FFF Florida Council Fly Fishing Conclave

Pete Greenan has been appointed by Council President Bill Gunn to set up and manage the first full-fledged Florida Council Conclave. Pete is now putting together the team of volunteers that will operate the various jobs of the Conclave and several positions remain to be filled. The Conclave will take place on October 23 -24, 2009 in Celebration, Florida (near Orando). Members interested in participating should respond directly to Pete at 941-232-2960 or captpete@floridaflyfishing.com

LOCAL FISHING GUIDES

- Capt. Frank Bourgeois Offshore Hernando Cty 352-666-6234
- Capt. Dave Chouinard, Tampa Bay 732-610-9700
- Capt. Pat Damico, Tampa Bay 727-360-6466
- Capt. Rick Grassett, Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Tampa Bay 941-923-7799
- Capt. Pete Greenan, Boca Grande and The Everglades 941-923-6095
- Capt. Mike Homer, Tampa Bay 727-418-5005
- Capt. Ray Markham Sarasota and Tampa Bay 941-723-2655
- Capt. Wayne Simmons Tampa Bay Area 727-204-4188
- Capt. Steve Soult, Nature Coast Area 352-686-0853



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SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS INFORMATION

SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

Our Aims and Purpose

The Suncoast Fly Fishers are dedicated to sharing their total fly fishing experiences and to developing interest in fly fishing in both fresh and saltwater. We shall 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 will help members become more skilled, have more fun and be more productive in the sport. Suncoast Fly Fishers support the conservation of natural resources, boating safety and fishing regulations.

BENEFITS OF SUNCOAST FLY FISHER MEMBERSHIP

- Monthly membership meetings with outstanding local speakers on fly fishing, fly tying, rod building, marine conservation and exotic fishing trips worldwide.
- Free fly casting, fly tying & knot tying instructions.
- Monthly club outings in local fresh and saltwater locales topped off with top notch lunches and story telling of the day's catch.
- Joint outings with other clubs in Florida.
- Monthly electronic newsletters with local fishing and club activity information plus fly tying instruction sheets and color photos.
- A professional website with fishing reports, links, club activity photos etc.
- Club hats and shirts.
- Annual award winning Pig Roast with first class auction.
- Charter club of the Federation of Fly Fishers.
- Make new friends and find a fishing buddy for your next fishing adventure.

Suncoast Fly Fishers, Your Board Of Directors Working For You

Activities are at the heart of any successful organization. SFF's BOD has instituted the following Standing Committees to help us maintain a high level of activities that have proven to be popular with the membership and some new ones to fill a need as expressed through membership surveys. These committees are generally chaired by board members but you do not have to be a board member to fill that position. If you would like to volunteer to participate on any of these committees, please speak to any director.

Committees are as follows:

- Casting Skills - Pat Damico
- FFF Liaison - Pat Damico
- Fly Tying - Alan Sewell
- Membership - Pat Damico & Joe Dail
- Newsletter - Paul Sequira
- Outings - Richard Oldenski & Mark Hays
- Publicity - Roger Blanton
- Programs - BOD
- Project Healing Waters - Terry Kirkpatrick
- Raffles - John Rodgers & Tom Hummel
- Shows & Special Events - Woody Miller
- Web Manager—Judd Sheets

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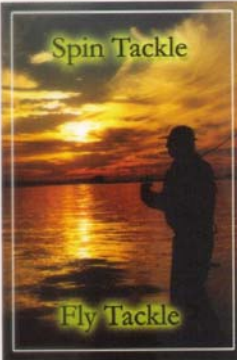


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FLY FISHING TIPS— DROPPERS for WET FLIES OR NYMPHS

I found this on the Evening Hatch website. The guys that own this shop are friends of mine in the Pocono Mts. in PA. Several members at the knot tying seminar asked how to add a dropper. Pat Damico

Many anglers resist using more than one fly, mostly due to problems that can occur when using a dropper on your leader. The biggest deterrent is that of tangled lines. But, if you create the proper rig, your tangles will be minimal if any at all.

There are a few good rules to remember when building your dropper setup;

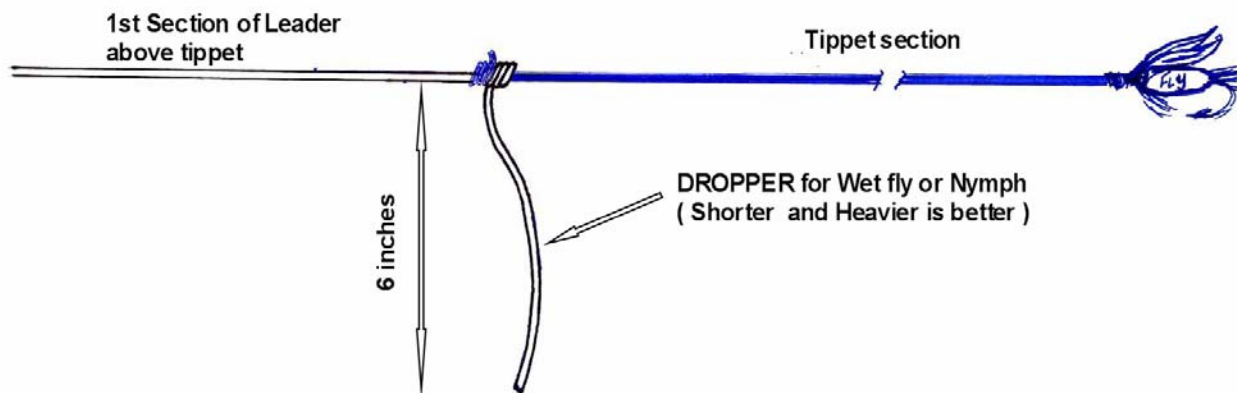
1. Keep the dropper short; usually 6 inches works great.
2. Use a heavier leader material for your dropper to keep it stiffer. This will keep it from being too soft thus causing tangles.

Following are 2 different methods for rigging a dropper leader:

Method One is for those of you who are constructing your own leader, or adding to a manufacturer's leader, where the dropper is actually part of your last knot tied to the tippet

Method Two is for adding a looped dropper to a leader by inserting the dropper above one of the knots in your leader.

Method #1

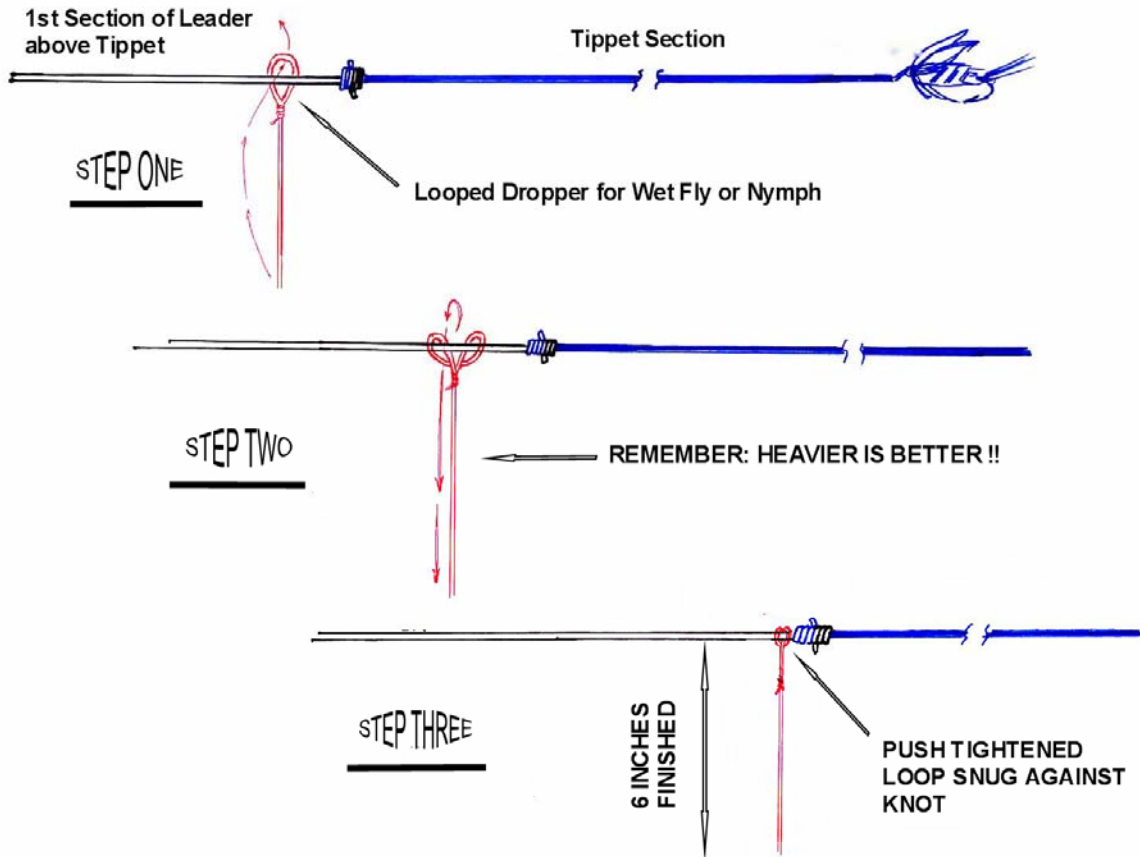


When constructing your knotted leader, or adding a new tippet to a manufactured leader, be sure to allow at least 8 or 9 inches of "dropper" section, so that after tying on your wet fly, you have a finished length of about 6 inches.

Continued on page 9

FLY FISHING TIPS— DROPPERS *continued*

Method #2



STEP ONE: Align your looped "dropper" perpendicular to the leader section above the last knot. (Dropper should be minimum 6 to 8 lb test. It should be at least 8 or 9 inches long so that after tying your wet fly on, the dropper finishes at about 6 inches.)

STEP TWO: Pull the straight end of your dropper section over the leader and through the loop. Then pull the straight end back down or towards you to create a tight knot at the loop. **DO NOT TIGHTEN COMPLETELY YET.**

STEP THREE: Slide the semi-snug loop up to the knot in the leader and tighten it. Now tie on your wet fly or nymph and have fun.

Dick and Paul
Evening Hatch Fly Shop
Lake Harmony, PA
www.eveninghatch.com

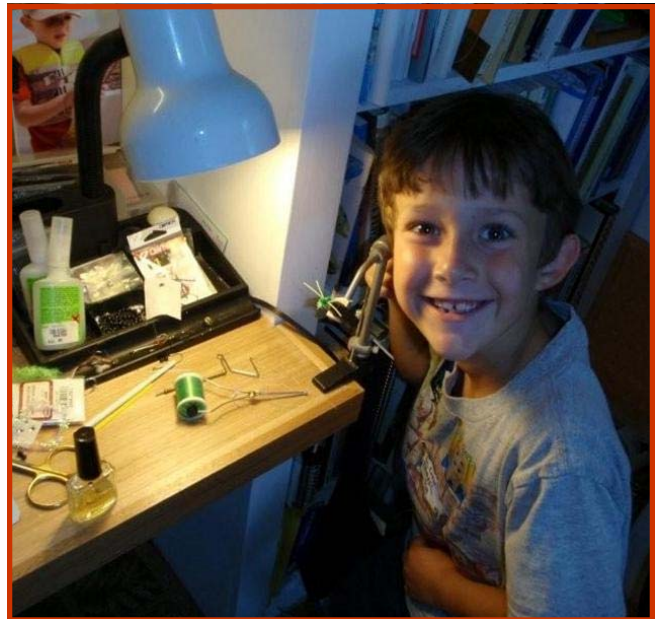
SFF Photo Gallery— Members in Action



Left above: Ken Doty shows off another nice snook from a trip he and the other Ken took last month
Right above: I think this must be the spot where that gal on the jet ski stole the snook from Rick Oldenski,. He didn't catch one here at last month's outing either. Photos: Ken Hofmeister



Okay, we do have occasional problems with a curious dolphin or a belligerent gator that wants the water for himself, but at least we don't have to watch out for Smokey. Pat Damico found this guy guarding Pat's favorite Pocono Mtns. Trout stream. Pat tells me that this black bear scaled that tree faster than a squirrel and kept the tree trunk between him and Pat the entire time Pat was photographing him. Photo: Pat Damico



Not to be out done by his sister Ada (of Ada Potato fame) Ken's grandson Ryan tries his hand at fly tying and I'm told that he ties a pretty mean bluegill spider. Now we know how Ken keeps his fly box full, he starts them young. Photo: Ken Hofmeister

SFF Photo Gallery—HOOK A KID—Start them early



Above left: 9 year old Jonathon Damico fishing a Pennsylvania trout stream with granddad Pat landed this beautiful rainbow trout he caught on a Woolly Bugger. Photo: Pat Damico

Above right: Ken Hofmeister's grandchildren Julia, Ryan and Ada admired a freshly caught speckled sea trout on a recent outing with granddad. Photo: Ken Hofmeister



Above: John Craig teaches a scout how to tie a foam spider at the Boy Scout Merit Badge University held at Eckerd College in which 10 SFF members participated as fly fishing instructors. Photo: Frank Moss



Above: This Boy Scout is completely engrossed in his effort to tie a foam spider with instructions from a SFF instructor. Photo: Frank Moss

SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

Club Officers

President: Ken Hofmeister 727-521-1637

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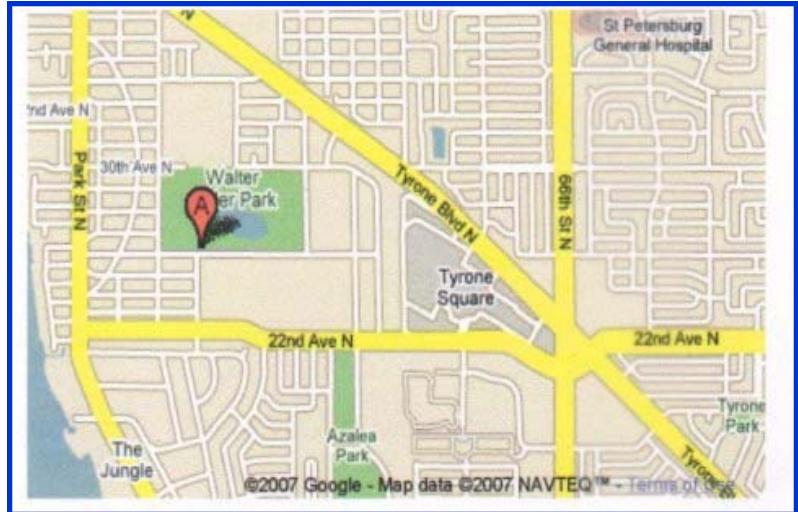
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John Rodgers—Alan Sewell - Paul Sequira

“On the Fly” is the monthly newsletter of the Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF), a not-for-profit organization offering fly fishing and fly tying instruction to members and visitors. Club membership includes newsletter subscription. Send e-mail submissions to the editor, Paul Sequira

psequira@tampabay.rr.com



Next Club Meeting: July 16, 2009

Time: 6:30-7:00 PM Outdoor Activities & Fly Tying

7:00-8:30 Meeting & Program

Location: Walter Fuller Park

7891 26 Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Program: Capt Dave Chouinard of The Tampa Angler will present his program “Fishing Tips & Tricks”

Featured Fly Tier: Siobhan Archard will demonstrate tying cork and foam poppers

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<http://www.suncoastflyfishers.com/>

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