#### Volume 19, Issue 3

March2009

# The Prez Sez by Ken Hofmeister



#### LIVING THE SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS VISION/VALUES



#### VISION

To be Florida's leading fly-fishing club—helping members have more fun fly-casting, fly-fishing, and fly-tying—gaining new knowledge and skill at every meeting and event. VALUES

**MEETING MEMBER NEEDS**: Suncoast Fly Fishers, Inc. will continuously seek to understand and meet the personal and practical **needs of members**. A key to attracting and retaining members is to meet or exceed their needs.

We appreciate all those program presenters who tried to pass along a few tips to help us fish better and have more fun. Among the 2008 presenters were Jim Swann, Aaron Adams, Ron Whiteley, Steve Gibson, Jim Wilson, Pat Damico, Russ Hampton, Rick Grassett, and Jason Stock. Some designated tiers included: Al Pitcher, Tiger Vertregt, Bill Smith, Paul Sequira, Charlie Most, Pat Damico, Russ Hampton, Steve Gibson, Aaron Adams, Ron Whiteley, Rick Grassett, Alan Sewell, Ken Hofmeister, Ken Doty, Norm Sande, Mark Hays, and unnamed others. Bill AuCoin provided newsletter summaries of our programs and coordinated some boat/fishing show booths.

Communication is a critical member need and we commend those who keep us and our publics informed. Especially we thank Paul Sequira for his splendid work in producing On The Fly newsletter and Thomas Gadacz, who volunteered to get the newsletter out while Paul was recovering from surgery. We appreciate all who sent articles and pictures. Without monthly minutes of our board and membership meetings, few decisions would be implemented. We thank Joe Dail for accurate and timely information, along with SFF insurance. Judd Sheets maintains a web site that is a vital window to our clubhelping folks find their way to membership and events.

After a morning fishing, our crowd needs hot coffee and good food. Richard Oldenski and Mark Hays repeatedly cut their fishing short to prepare our outing lunches. This is where essential "bonding" takes place and people find themselves really belonging to our organization. Marianne Hays stepped up to deliver the chili at our Don Coleman Classic when Alan Sewell was ill. Don Manning coordinated our Everglades extravaganza that brought us together in a fly-fishing bonanza.

# **FRIENDLINESS:** SFF strives to be a friendly, inclusive, and unpretentious group of fly-fishers who have fun learning and fishing together. New members will find themselves welcomed, respected, invited, and needed.

It's fun to walk into our meetings or events and listen to the laughter and swapping of stories. These are our "fishing people." We call them "friends." And we support them in illness and loss. We do more than fish—we care and we share. This is not the sort of stuff you program. It happens because of the club's character and culture. We're proud to be friendly and inclusive. Stacey and John Zientarski model the friendliness value while hosting our annual Pig Roast. John never fails to pinch hit as auctioneer or treasurer as needed. New members are stepping up in committee responsibilities.

**CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT:** We believe we can always improve the way we tie, cast, fish, and educate. We are committed to continually improving how we function as we benchmark with other groups. We solicit improvement ideas for our processes, services, and ourselves. We are committed to preserving our waters and marine resources. We keep searching for safer and more productive ways to enjoy our sport.

Continued on page 2

#### SFF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 28th - Pig Roast April 24/25th Everglades Trip April 25th - Marine Quest Club participation May 1/2nd - Boy Scout Merit Badge College

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S anc :

## **OUTINGS -REVIEWS & PREVIEWS** by Richard Oldenski

### March Outing - March 21, 2009 -**Snook Haven**

February Outing - In spite of cold weather, we had a great time at the February outing at Ft. DeSoto. It was very windy, but we managed to find windsheltered holes that held ladyfish and trout. Club Prez Ken Hofmeister stole the show by catching 13 ladyfish, winning the prize with one 22 inches long. Mark Hays provided a grand finale to the outing at lunch by serving marinated venison kabobs, also known as "Speedies" because of the famous Speedy's sauce marinade. You should have been there!

March Outing - The Snook Haven Retreat is actually a fresh water venue on the Myakka River near Venice, Fl. You probably won't catch any snook here, but expect hungry bass and sunfish to aggressively attack your fly. The "Retreat" itself is a guirky Old Florida style fish camp with a restaurant that serves the favorite local dishes of what might be called "Cracker Cuisine". There's no wading on the river as swimming with the alligators is prohibited by the fish camp rules. You'll need a boat, canoe or kayak. Canoes and kayaks can be rented for \$15 per 1 1/2 hrs. There's a boat ramp fee of \$5.00 plus tax, and boats over 17 feet long are not permitted to launch here. The club will not serve lunch, but you might plan to enjoy lunch at the relaxed and historic restaurant.

To get there, drive south on I-75 toward

Naples. Get off of I-75 at exit 191 and turn right on N. River Road. Turn left at East Venice Avenue and cautiously follow this road to the fish camp. Checkout the fish camp website at www.snookhavenretreat.com for more information.

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

| Spiders and Beetles        | Feb. 2007 page 8  |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Mighty Myakka Minnow       | July 2008 page 8  |
| Little Brown River Clouser | July 2008 page 9  |
| Most's Bluegill Fly        | Sept. 2008 page 6 |
| Woolly Bugger              | April 2008 page 8 |

#### **Future Outing Previews:**

April 2009 - Lake Manatee May 2009 - Night Snook Extravaganza **Fishing Tournament -**

Snook - Tom Trukenbrod - 30 inches Trout - Mark Hays - 20 inches Redfish - Mark Hays - 22 inches Sunfish - Don Manning  $-10\frac{1}{2}$  inches Bass - Don Manning - 141/2 inches Open Category - Tiger Vertregt - 261/2 inch Gar

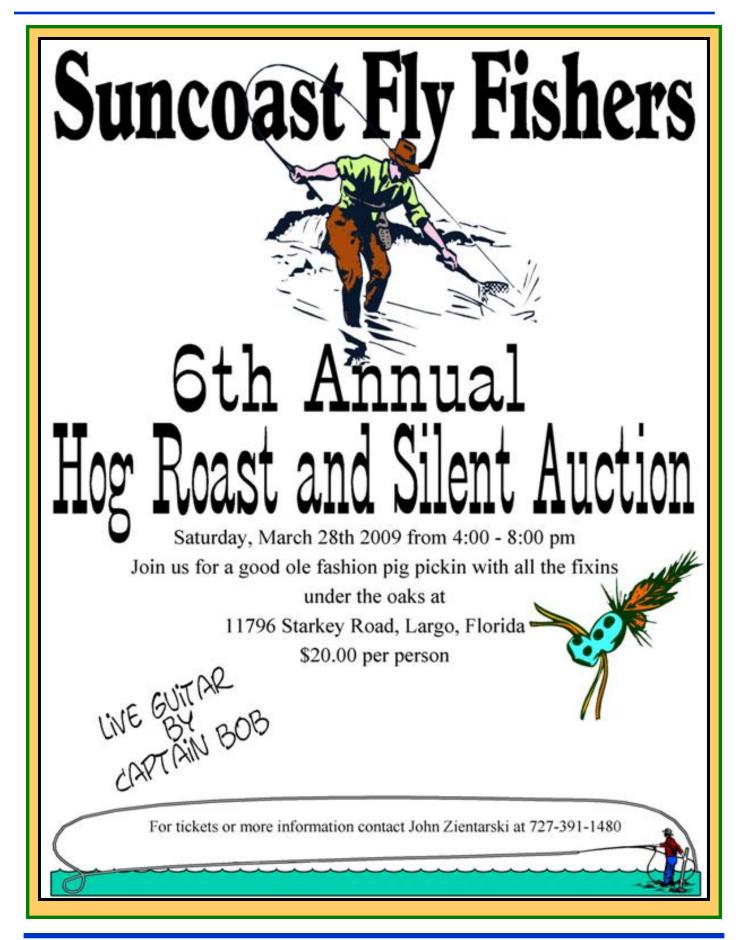
#### MARCH 19, 2009 MEETING

Gina Russo, Outreach Coordinator Fisheries Assessment and Fisheries Stock Enhancement, will present our March Program. She knows more about redfish than we do—that's for sure. Gina, no stranger to our group, knows a lot about us as well. She'll tell us where the redfish were and maybe where some of them are. Gina will update us on Florida Marine Research issues/concerns/progress. Finally, she'll show us how to release a fish the proper way—should we have the occasion. .....Ken Hofmeister

#### **THE PREZ SEZ** — LIVING SFF VISION/VALUES ...... continued from page 1

Ken Doty helped us tie better knots, while Pat Damico and numerous helpers (Terry Kirkpatrick, Enver Hysni, Charlie Most, Ken Doty, Robert Fischer, and Mike Mazzo) coached us to make better casts. All of our above mentioned tiers helped us stock our fly boxes with improved versions. Our SFF Board kept searching for ways to do things better and at less cost. We especially salute Thomas Gadacz for helping us establish improved financial procedures and reports. Tom also pulled a shirt order out of the fire and, along with Joe Dail, got our membership list in order. 2008 was the year to salute service to our vets at Bay Pines. John Craig, Terry Kirkpatrick, and Pat Damico spearheaded and sustained a successful Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing venture. Among those who regularly volunteer to help vets tie flies, cast, and fish are: Don Manning, Thomas Gadacz, Ken Doty, Ken Hofmeister, Les Scott, Ed Smith, Tom Jones, Al Pitcher, Ron Kelly, and others. ......Ken





# SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS INFORMATION

### HOG ROAST 2009 >< HOG ROAST 2009 >< HOG ROAST 2009

Attention Members: We need fly tying materials and items associated with fly tying such as feathers, flash material, hooks, bobbins, thread, beads, etc for the Pig Roast raffle and silent auction. The club will purchase some starter vices along with additional items to "get someone going" tying their own flies. Please package up the materials you wish to donate and bring them to our March meeting.

We also would like to request our fly tying members, to donate hand tied flies attractively packaged in groups of five or ten their choice. This has previously been a real success at previous Hog Roasts. Also, if you have items that are in good condition, please consider donating them for the raffle or silent auction. Donated items are not necessarily limited to fishing related items.

Don't forget to bring in your donated items to the March membership meeting.

.....The Auction Committee

## **SFF 2009 Officer Election**

SFF members present will vote for the following officers and directors as nominated at the February 2009 meeting. Treasurer: Tom Gadazc, Secretary: Joe Dail, Directors: Roger Blanton, Pat Damico and John Rodgers. There were no nominations from the floor at that time and the nominations are closed. .....PS

## HE'LL GIVE YOU THE SHIRT OFF HIS BACK

Maybe . . .However, Thomas Gadacz would rather sell you a short sleeved shirt with SFF logo. If you wear an XL he has a few of these Columbia shirts available. Limited number of S, M, L, and XXL are also for sale. See Thomas Gadacz at the March meeting with check or cash. \$40.00 and you can wear it out of the meeting! ......*Ken Hofmeister* 

### **EVERGLADES SPECIAL OUTING**

April 24-25 is the date for the Everglades Extravaganza Special SFF Outing. Ask anyone who has fished this feeding frenzy in the canals West of Ft. Lauderdale and you'll not want to miss it. Cost is \$86.00 for a double room. Members have until April 3 to make their own reservation arrangements. Ask for Gladys and tell her you are with the SFF group with Don Manning as coordinator. Phone number for the La Quinta Inn and Suites (Sunrise Sawgrass Mills) is 954-846-1200 or 800-531-5900. Address is 13651 N. W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Don Manning says to meet at 6:30 p.m. in the lobby Friday and Saturday evenings and we'll go to dinner together. Don's reservations have met with unanimous approval in times past. Gladys again refused to let us put our catch in the pool or their ice machine; however, breakfast and service was otherwise superb. Don will give us a water level update and general fishing prediction at the March and April membership meetings.

# SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS INFORMATION

#### **MARINE QUEST SFF BOOTH**

Suncoast Fly Fishers will be staffing an educational booth at the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has invited us to tie flies and educate visitors about the joys of fly fishing.

Since this date is obviously the same date as our Everglades Extravaganza Special Outing, this booth will be staffed by those who can't get down to the Everglades that weekend; but, who can and will give a couple of hours for booth duty that Saturday. Check the web site for Events and sign up—or call Bill AuCoin 727-528-0287 to volunteer for this well attended educational opportunity.

#### NO EXCUSE AFTER MARCH MEETING

No more "my knot came loose," or "my hook was dull," or "I didn't know the saltwater regulations," or "it was a winner but I didn't have a vardstick." At the March meeting Gina Russo will have the regulations for both fresh and saltwater. She'll have some dandy non-metallic tape measures with FWC logo. Ken Doty will show you how to tie foolproof knots. And, Les Scott will have the long awaited hook sharpener available to the 18 listed members and 7 first-comefirst-served members who have the requisite \$6.00. This is a "gem" of a deal---as in diamond hook sharpeners. To top all of this, Charlie Most will demonstrate his Bendback as seen in this issue's Tying Bench Section. Now, if you say that the "dog ate the big fish," all we can say is that vou should leave that dog home on the next outing. .....Ken Hofmeister

## FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS DUES NOTICES by Joe Dail

Club members are beginning to receive dues renewal notices 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

### LOCAL FISHING GUIDES

Capt. Frank Bourgeois Offshore Hernando Cty 352-666-6234
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 Soults, Nature Coast Area 352-686-0853

# 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 or 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
- Webmanager—Judd Sheets



"Never trust a man who

doesn't fish" (Teddy Roosevelt)

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# The Wind Is Your Friend By Capt. Pat Damico

When I give a fly casting clinic, or private lessons, the wind is always a concern. When fishing our Florida flats, a day without wind is a rarity except in the summer when a little breeze would be a welcome relief. We can't climb down into a valley between two tree covered mountains and find a sanctuary free from the wind as when we fish for freshwater trout. Should we pick only calm days to fish with the long rod? If we did, we would not do much fly fishing.



Ken Hofmeister photo

This time of year, wind is a constant issue. Instead of complaining about the wind can we cope with it and even use it to our advantage?

I prefer the winter for shallow water fly fishing. The tides are very low, floating grass is almost nonexistent and the water is very clear. Trout, reds and snook will present many sight fishing opportunities that are only available now. Besides a flats boat, paddle fishing and wading will get you close to your quarry. The rest is up to you.

As with most sports, physical and mental preparation will pay handsome dividends later. What are some key issues to make our fly fishing outings more pleasurable and productive? Let's go through a few items that will help the most.

Equipment should be balanced and familiar. The eight weight rod most recommended is fine, but I would downsize my flies and leader. Larger baitfish, abundant a few months ago, is not available now. If a shock tippet is not needed, a twelve pound test fluorocarbon tippet will be an advantage when fishing size two to six flies. When fishing the shallows, bead chain eyes are preferred to heavier lead or tungsten allowing a softer presentation when contacting the water. Be very stealthy and do not create ripples when moving that the fish will feel.

The one most important feature of an effective cast is the formation of a tight loop. Wide open loops will not penetrate the wind and cause most casting difficulties. As with any sport, practice is the key to consistent predictable results. If you go out to your lawn or a nearby park and cannot cast nice tight loops, front and rear, you will not cast better when you are on the water. A rigged rod with an old line and leader should be readily available for a few twenty minute practice sessions a week. I like an orange colored line so that I can visualize everything. Place your casting side foot rearward as you practice. This will allow you to see your backcast easily. A poor backcast will never allow a good forward cast. Mark a one inch band on your line with a black sharpie thirty feet from the fly. Put a double one inch mark at forty feet. When the forty foot mark is at the rod tip, you will be casting close to fifty feet. Begin your casts with the rod tip on the

grass and all slack eliminated. After you have executed a technically perfect thirty foot cast, strip out a couple more feet of line and repeat at thirty-two feet. Continue lengthening your casts until your front and rear loops are nice and narrow. Cast vertically, and work horizontally. False casting, not allowing the fly or line to hit the grass is the best way to do this. Your rod tip should travel in a straight line. A rod tip that moves in a convex manner causes a large loop; a concave rod tip will cause a tailing loop, where the two line strands cross one another. This is the cause of "wind knots," which have nothing to do with the wind and are a casting error.

When the wind is coming toward your non casting side, accuracy is affected. Wind blowing into your casting side will drive the fly line and hook into you with a possible trip to the ER. With this type of wind, cast on your weak side, or fish your backcast. A little practice will have you casting with your opposite hand which is ideal. Wind into your face means your backcast will get some help, but a single haul and a tight loop close to the water will easily give you adequate distance in front. When the wind is blowing into your back, roll casting will often give you considerable distance. A Belgium cast where the line is picked up close to the water and brought rearward horizontally with a haul will then be delivered vertically where the wind will help carry it forward to the target. The information in this last paragraph will equip you for most wind conditions.

The frustration that wind has caused in the past can be eliminated with some practice and by applying many of the principles I discussed. Your ability to improve the effectiveness of your fly fishing will require more initial effort in order to reap better future dividends.

*Capt. Pat Damico, a FFF Certified Fly Casting Instructor, charters fly and light tackle trips in Tampa Bay area and can be reached at 727-504-8649, or his website <u>www.captpat.com</u>.* 

# Fly Tying Bench– Lefty's Bug by Pat Damico

This past year, I had the privilege of guiding Tom Schmuecker, owner of Wapsi Products. Tom's knowledge of fly fishing, especially fly tying was incredible. During our discussions he revealed his love of freshwater bass fishing, especially on the surface. Tom said Lefty's Bug was by far one of the best poppers he ever used. A week after he returned home, he sent me several flies that he tied including Lefty's Bug. I tied some and used them this past summer for Pennsylvania large and smallmouth bass with great success. The fly is very simple and is most productive in this original version.



Lefty's Bug tied by Pat Damico Al Pitcher photo

#### Materials list:

•Hooks: Mustad 9672, or similar hook, size 2-8

- •Thread: Black or yellow 4/0
- •Tail: Squirrel tail, gray or red

•Body: Small corks, available at craft, and hardware stores

•Paint: Yellow Testors model paint, clear Sally Hansen Hard as Nails, Hacksaw blade and 5 minute epoxy

#### **Tying Instructions:**

1.Crimp barb, cover entire straight part of hook shank with thread

2.I like to sand a flat area of the cork selected to sit on the water, pick the part with most defects if present

3. With a hacksaw blade cut a groove for the hook in the center of the flat area from front to back. Try thread covered hook for fit, making sure it is recessed adequately and that point of hook is not too close to cork body

4.Coat the groove with 5 minute epoxy, place hook in groove, smooth flat area with applicator. Make sure hook is properly centered and straight

5. When epoxy is thoroughly dry, paint entire cork with yellow Testors. When dry, color looks more like mustard

6.Coat painted cork with a thin layer of clear Sally Hansens

Place hook in vise, and tie thread behind cork. Select a bunch of squirrel tail to match your hook size, overall length of hair will be about as long as hook shank. Secure hair and whip finish. Head cement applied to thread will complete fly.

Smaller versions are great for panfish. Do 6 or more at a time by doing each step on all of them before proceeding. This is just another of the many wonderful contributions Lefty Kreh has made to our sport.

# Fly Tying Bench— Bendback by Charlie Most

Choosing a fly for fishing the flats can be a real crapshoot. It should suggest a baitfish or maybe a crab or shrimp. And if there are weedbeds and grass on that flat, the fly should be at least semi-weedless. With emergent weeds at low tide, and the bottom grass just a couple of feet below the surface, a fly that won't snag on every other cast is almost vital; not to keep you from working a little harder but to reduce splashing around and spooking any fish that might be there.

Bendback flies seem to fill this need rather well and I feel this tying method is the ultimate approach for fishing shallow, weedy flats. And it is a tying method, based on a hook that keeps its point pointing up. That lets the fly sink down to the grass tops or be stripped in and around those emergent weedbeds without catching in the vegetation.

#### Materials:

- Hook: Mustad 3407 or similar
- Thread: 3/0 flat waxed nylon
- Body: chenille, braid, etc. materials your choice
- Wing: bucktail colors your choice
- Flash: Krystal Flash color to compliment fly
- Vailing: dyed grizzly hackle color to compliment fly
- Head & eyes: see instructions

#### **Tying Instructions:**



Copper Head Bendback tied by Charlie Most Paul Sequira photo

This fly pattern is very simple to tie, once you have the right hook. Tiemco makes a special bendback hook but the tying section right behind the eye seems too limited. John Homer showed me how to modify regular saltwater hooks by putting a 20-degree bend in the shank about <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch back of the eye. Just use pliers to grip the hook right over the eye (to prevent twisting) and use a finger in the hook bend to pull it down. Use two pliers for smaller hooks.

This fly is tied with the hook upside down. Mount it in the vise making sure that straight section behind the eye is horizontal. Attach the tying thread right at the kink you made and wrap it down the shank just past the beginning of the bend. As you wrap, use a somewhat elliptical motion so that the thread won't be cut by the hook point. Tie in a length of body material and wrap the thread over it back to the kink and half hitch it.

Chenille, body braid, yarn or whatever can be used for the body. I like a tad of flash and have various synthetics that add that. In fact, I recently found some rod-making braid that is perfect for smaller flies. Wrap that body material up the shank but stop at the kink. Don't clutter up the straight section just behind the eye, as that's where you're going to tie every thing else.

I prefer bucktail for "winging" this fly. Although somewhat bulky for the small space, it has the length and also the buoyancy to help keep the hook point up. I like two colors for the wing and start with white or yellow bucktail. Measure the length against the hook to get it two to two and a half times the hook length and a bit more than matchstick thick. Lash the bucktail down back near the kink and the pull the butts up slightly and cut them off behind the eye on an up and back angle for a smoother head. If you want more sparkle, now is the time to add some Krystal Flash.

For the second or topping color, I use blue, chartreuse, tan, rusty brown, or gray. Tie this over the first clump of bucktail and again trim at an angle. Don't use really tight thread wraps to cover the head. Lighter wraps keep the bucktail from flaring in all directions. Stop the wrapping at the back with several, somewhat loose wraps to control any flared strands.

The fly is essentially finished if that's the way you want it but I greatly prefer adding a "veiling" of two dyed grizzly feathers on each side to provide a barred effect. Several of our baitfish species have this barring and others do not. I just think the fly looks better and the fish seem to appreciate it. Tying these in is a bit tricky! The shafts of feathers are seldom perfectly round and when you tighten the thread on them they roll out of alignment.

I prepare two sets of paired feathers the same length as the bucktail and strip away the excess fibers below the tie in point. Hold the feathers so the stripped area and the shafts are lined up and place a drop of super glue right where the remaining fibers begin. Let this dry for a couple of minutes and they'll tie in perfectly when you wrap back over the glued area.

My main effort in tying these flies is painting the heads and spotting in the eyes. They just seem unfinished without this and it does add a classier look. I won't go into the details of how this is done as it has already been written up in the September 2007 issue of <u>On</u> the Fly. This is easily accessed via the SFF's fine website <u>www.suncoastflyfishers.com</u>

# **Suncoast Fly Fisher Photo Gallery**



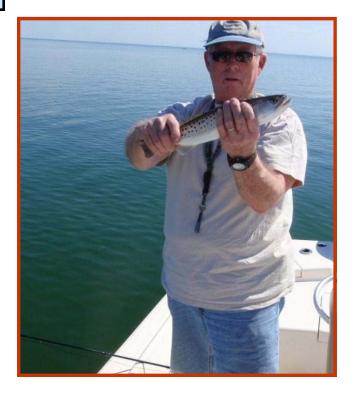


Top left: Chef Mark Hays prepares the Speedie venison kabobs Top Right: The hungry crowd shows Mark their appreciation by chowing down the goodies. Ken Hofmeister photos

Bottom left: A morning fishing with the Prez and our long distance member Ken McKinnon shows us he still knows how to land the ladyfish.

Bottom left: Ken McKinnon also shows us a nice spotted sea trout that fell to the Ada Potato. Ken Hofmeister photos





# **Suncoast Fly Fishers Photo Gallery**

Right: Ken Doty and Ken Hofmeister spent a productive morning and had these 21" and 23" trout among others to show for it.

Ken Hofmeister photo





Capt. Pat Damico demonstrated a Lefty Kreh designed popping bug called Lefty's Bug at the February meeting .

Above: Tom Jones and Mark Hays watch closely as Pat completes a Bug.

Right: Pat's tying skills are much appreciated by the crowd watching another Lefty's Bug being tied.



Al Pitcher photos

#### SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS Club Officers

President: Ken Hofmeister 727-521-1637

Vice President: John Zientarski 727-391-1480

Secretary: Joe Dail

Treasurer: Tom Gadacz

#### **Board of Directors**

Roger Blanton - Pat Damico

Mark Hays - Richard Oldenski

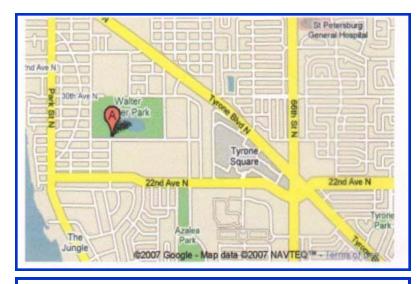
John Rodgers-Alan Sewell - Paul Sequira

"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



Suncoast Fly Fishers P.O. BOX 40821 St. Petersburg, FL 33743-0821



Next Club Meeting: March 19, 2009 Time: 6:30-7:00 PM Outdoor Activities 7:00-8:30 Meeting & Program Location: Walter Fuller Park 7891 26 Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710 Program: Gina Russo Florida Fish Wildlife Commission discussing the redfish tagging program Featured Fly Tyer: Charlie Most