

Suncoast Fly Fishers



On The Fly

The Prez Sez *by Tom Gadacz*



The Oil Spill

The explosion of oilrig Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico created an environment disaster. The cause and response to this disaster has caught the attention of everyone and has resulted in high emotions and some irrational reactions. The cause of the disaster is the result of greed, ignoring established safety standards and lack of enforcement of current governmental regulations. There is plenty of blame to go around.

The current status is a massive petroleum and natural gas leak that will destroy significant areas of our environment. The economic impact is enormous. There is plenty of experience from the Valdez disaster on how to contend with the oil and its impact on our wildlife, fishing industry and recreational beaches. Some of the lessons learned from the Valdez disaster include training personnel on the management of the spill and the disposal of the toxic waste (BP prefers to call this toxic waste a “product”). What was not anticipated and a lesson we need to learn is that the clean up may be a several month process but the environmental impact is many years, probably 10 or more. We must hold BP and its associated partners responsible for the **clean up and environmental impact** for a long time. This cannot and should not be a short-term buy-out for anyone.

We must hold our elected officials responsible for not exercising proper oversight and must keep political pressure on all of them to insure that there is adequate funding from those companies responsible for the disaster. There is no doubt that there are lobbying efforts to influence or impede legislation to minimize the economic impact to those companies responsible for the disaster. These lobbying efforts will be intensive!

So what can and should we do? Organizations such as ours, Suncoast Fly Fishers and a Charter Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers, are dedicated to conserve and preserve our environment. The water is the lifeblood of our organization! Your Board of Directors discussed the oil disaster at the June 7th meeting. There was unanimous support for us to be involved. Volunteer to help clean up the beaches of debris so if the oil reaches our shores the oil clean up will be easier. We are planning to co-ordinate volunteer activity with Tampa Bay Watch or an official organization. Stay tuned and informed. There may not be a direct role for us in the actual oil clean up. Those involved in the oil clean up and disposal will be trained, authorized, and paid personnel wearing Tyvek suits and respirators.

SFF UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 19th - SFF Outing Emerson Point
- July 7th - Start SFF Fly Tying Workshop
- July 8th - Kasting With Kids Walter Fuller Park

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The Prez Sezcontinued from page 1

Funding for the clean up is the responsibility of BP and its partners. We can volunteer to be trained to participate in the clean up of affected wild life. We do not see a need for monetary contributions from SFF.

What else should we do? Perhaps the most important thing we can do is to call, write, and e-mail our elected officials and express our concern, our disappointment of their lack of enforcement of environment regulations, and the expectation that they will insure retribution for the damage from the responsible parties. This is going to be a problem with a significant environmental impact for at least 10 years and a short-term settlement from the responsible parties is not acceptable. Lack of action by our elected officials is not an option and decisions based on influential lobbying (\$\$\$\$\$) by the oil companies is unacceptable.

Call, write, or e-mail your state and federal officials including President Barack Obama and Governor Charlie Crist. We plan to provide a suggested letter that you may use. To identify your local officials and their contact number/e-mail go to www.usa.gov click on each category and type in your zip code and the 4-digit suffix. Get involved!!!*Tom*

OUTINGS -REVIEWS & PREVIEWS *by Alan Sewell*

June Outing – June 19, 2010 Emerson Point

May Outing Report: On May 22, the Suncoast Fly Fishers floated, fished and ate on the Hillsboro River. It was a great day to spend floating on the River. The sun was hidden behind the overhanging trees and the wind did not blow. The fish did bite with the largest bass at 15 inches caught by Don Manning, and the largest bream caught by Ken Hofmiester was an 8½ inch fish. At the end of our trip we had grilled hamburgers waiting for us, cooked by Richard Oldenski. Mark Hays did catch a 31 inch gar for the Open category.

June Outing: Our next outing, on Saturday, June 19th will be at Emerson Point in Manatee County. This will be a great trip to catch your saltwater fish. Reds, trout, jacks, ladyfish, or tarpon. Use your favorite pattern of

minnows, crabs or shrimp to land that record-breaker. This a good place to wade fish, kayak or fish from a boat. Lunch will be in their shelters.

Future Outing Previews:

July - Withlacoochee River
August - To be determined

Fishing Tournament 2010 - 2011

Snook XXXXXX
Bass - Mark Hayes - 17"
Sunfish - Ted Rich - 9"
Open Category - Mark Hayes - 31" Gar
Trout - open
Red fish - open



June Program—Capt. Paul Hawkins

Capt. Paul who will tell us all there is know about catching redfish, has been profiled in major magazines and newspapers throughout the country including Florida Sportsman, Saltwater Sportsman, Saltwater Flyfishing, the Suncoast Fishermen's Guide, the Tampa Tribune and the St. Petersburg Times. His guiding and fly rod skills have earned him numerous tournament and state record citations. He has fished local waters for more than 40 years, including the last 15 as a full-time guide. SFF members were enthralled by his recent fly-fishing presentation at the St. Petersburg Times Boat Show. Check out his web site at www.flatsguy.com/flyfishing.

Designated Fly Tyer - Alan Sewell will demonstrate his Neer Hair fly.

SFF Information and Activities

Casting Tips By Capt. Pat Damico MCI

Casting tip #6: Our last Essential has to do with the application of Power which must be applied in the proper amount at the proper place in the casting stroke. This power application must be identical in both the forward and back cast. Apply power slowly at first and gradually increase speed before making a crisp stop. This power sequence first loads or bends the rod and then a stop unloads the rod propelling the fly line. Hammering a nail, throwing a dart or throwing paint from a wet paint brush all require the same slow start and then a smooth increase in acceleration to a sudden stop. Try doing this with a pencil in your hand to get the feel of a good cast, then pick up your fly rod butt section without line and duplicate the movement. When this feels comfortable, string your rod and do some lawn casting. Review the other four Essentials and put them all together.

CASTING WITH KIDS - YOUTH FLY CASTING AND FLY TYING CLASS

On July 8 (Thursday) SFF will conduct an hour class for 5th and 6th grade students in the Summer Program at Walter Fuller Recreational Center. The class will begin at 10:00am and end at 11:00am. We anticipate about 25 students. The class will be at the Walter Fuller Recreation Center (same place and room where we have our monthly meetings). If you plan to cast, please bring a light weight rod (5 wt or smaller and preferably a short rod and reel. If you plan to tie, bring your fly tying stuff. Plan to be at the Walter Fuller Center by 9:30 am so we will have sufficient time to set up. We plan a brief orientation session followed by hands on instruction and participation of the students in fly tying and fly casting.

Pat Damico offered these casting suggestions:

- Use light short rods, 4-5 wt. 7 1/2 ft if possible, brightly colored line and "fly"
- The smallest kids can use 2 hands
- Work at eye level, cast sitting on floor at first, then sit on stool
- Use a short leader and line and always a target after they "play a little"

To volunteer please e-mail (thomasgadacz@yahoo.com) or phone (706-726-7899).

Thanks and I greatly appreciate your help with this program.*Tom Gadacz*

Fly Tying Workshop by Paul Sequira

SFF's first fly tying workshop for beginning fly tyers is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, July 7th. (See last month's issue of *On The Fly* May 2010 for a complete description and materials/tools list. You'll find it on our website www.suncoastflyfishers.com under the newsletter link). Class size is limited to eight students; to date, six members have signed up. If you would like to fill one of the two remaining slots for the summer session, please see me at the June meeting or email me at psequira@tampabay.rr.com or telephone me at 727-343-7653 A second workshop will be held in the fall, date to be determined.

“Tampa Bay On The Fly Coming Soon”

Trout Fishing/Catching In Colorado by Tom Gadacz



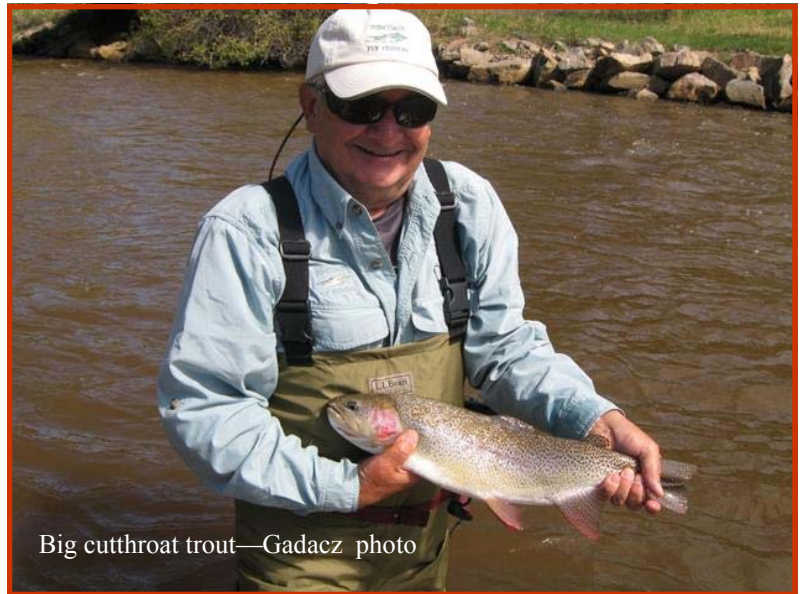
Beautiful 23" rainbow—Gadacz photo

I started fly fishing in the Tetons in Wyoming and caught 6 to 12 inch trout. The only big fish I caught were here in Florida and I have enjoyed the variety and skill it takes to fly fish the salt water flats of the Sun Coast. In addition, many lakes provide fresh water fly fishing opportunities. Last month we had a family event in the Denver and Boulder areas which provided an opportunity to put on the waders and fly fish for trout.

North of Boulder is the Big Thompson River and Mother Lake. The Big Thompson was tough with a 30 mile an hour wind and a rapid and muddy flow. No luck catching and lost plenty of flies.

The next day I hooked up with Ted Meredith, who guides on the Sylvan Dale property, which has many mountain lakes including Mother Lake. Mother Lake was a challenge matching the hatch but did manage to catch a 19 inch rainbow while tube floating .

My other daughter lives a little south of Denver and fished the North Fork of the South Platte River with John Hagen at Boxwood Gulch Ranch. The South Platte is considered a trophy river but part of it took a hit with a major fire several years ago. The North Fork was not affected. The North Fork receives most of its water from Dillon Reservoir via Roberts Tunnel. The water was a little turbid and cold, about 48 degrees. We waded just a few stretches of the 3 mile river front and I was very lucky. Nymphing was the venue and a red San Juan worm and a half-back (stonefly nymph) dropper matched the hatch. Wow! The smallest catch was an 18 inch and the largest a 23 inch trout. Between 9:00am and 7:30pm about 30+ trout were landed. Most were rainbows but also caught a cutthroat, few cut-bows and a brown. John is an excellent guide with 20 years of experience. The river is loaded with trophy trout that even I could catch, at least that day.



Big cutthroat trout—Gadacz photo

If you have any relatives or friends in Colorado, pay them a visit and pack your waders and a 5 wt rod.

Tom Gadacz

Rachel Arndt: Channel Energies through Tampa Bay Watch by Bill AuCoin

Our bay was lousy with pollutants in the 1970s. Algae blooms and fish kills were common. Bay water was so murky divers couldn't see their own hands.

A hundred years of cavalier abuse at the hands of citizens and their civic leaders did the damage, made worse as the area population expanded rapidly.

The bay is rebounding now, for a lot of reasons, and one of the biggest is Tampa Bay Watch, the non-profit that organizes hands-on restoration, protection and education projects.

Rachel Arndt, TBW's communications coordinator, spoke at the May meeting of the Suncoast Fly Fishers. Arndt described volunteer projects created and managed by TBW and how they are helping clean up the largest open water estuary in Florida.

- Oyster bar and oyster dome programs for cleaner water. One oyster filters 10 gallons of bay water per hour.
- Sea grass and salt marsh planting to provide underwater habitat for juvenile species and to help filter dirty storm water before it flows into the bay
- Neighborhood storm drain marking project. Some people don't seem to realize that the lawn mower motor oil they pour into the storm drain goes straight into the bay.
- Discarded monofilament removal program
- Derelict crab trap removal program
- For students, marine education programs like "Estuary Adventures," summer camps, field trip visits, kayak eco-tours, seining for sea critters, touch-tank sessions, and expeditions to Fort De Soto Park for beach cleanup, dune re-nourishment and vegetation tours

They're working. Arndt told members that the increase in scallops, a bellwether species, documents progress toward a cleaner bay.

TBW's Great Bay Scallop Search, an annual event, turned up only 17 scallops in 2006. Only three years later searchers found 674 scallops. Snorkelers and others are needed this year. The event is August 28.

The bay is better but will the work ever be done? Probably not. The counties that surround the bay -- Pinellas-Hillsborough-Manatee -- are home to 2.7 million people. Forecasters expect a 60 percent increase by 2060.

The good news is that's a lot of people who will learn about Tampa Bay and twice as many hands to help with the cleanup.

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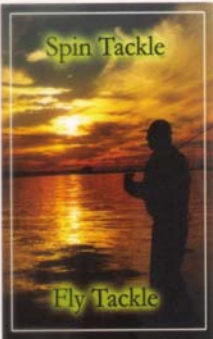
Rachel Arndt, Tampa Bay Watch

Bill AuCoin photo

SFF Information and Activities

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 their fellow members. If you would like to volunteer as a featured fly tyer, please see Myron Hansen at the meeting or call him at 727-393-5075.



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Tying Bench - Hampton's Version of the Gurgler by Bill AuCoin

Russ Hampton tied his Gurgler Fly for Suncoast Fly Fishers at the May meeting, taking SFF fly tiers through the process all the way from cutting the foam to hooking a six pound bass in the Everglades.

Okay, scratch the part about the six-pound bass, except you should know that Russ and his Gurgler Fly have taken bass up to six pounds in the South Florida canals. Work it like a popper, he said. For peacock bass, keep it moving.

The Gurgler Fly was created by Jack Gar-side, but our man Russ gives it a weed guard as well as other twists and turns to make it his own. Turn to the next page (page 8) to view the process for tying this fly.



Here we see Russ Hampton (above) preparing to tie another Gurgler with a finished Gurgler with weed guard up front.

In this photo (left) Russ is measuring and preparing to cut a foam strip for the Gurgler back and lip.

All photos on this and next page by Bill AuCoin

Tying Bench - Hampton's Gurgler by Bill AuCoincontinued

Hampton's Gurgler tying materials and procedure

Materials:

- Hook: Mustad 34007 or your favorite saltwater hook. Russ uses the Gamakatsu SP11-3L3H size 2
- Thread: Monofilament tying thread or 3/0 Flat waxed nylon—white
- Tail: Bucktail—white with pearl Flashabou over
- Body: Estaz Grande - pearl or white
- Underbody and back: closed cell tying foam - white
- Weed guard: 20# or 30# hard monofilament

Tying procedure:

1. Cut the foam. Russ uses a piece of piece of tempered glass, a straight edge, wallpaper cutter, and a ruler to measure the width. For small bluegill gurglers, it's ¼-inch wide; for bass, ½-inch wide.
2. Wrap the shank of the hook.
3. Cut the bucktail to the length you want. Clean out excess hair.
4. Tie bucktail in and some flash on top. Pic #1
5. Tie in rubber legs facing back, for bass gurglers; but for a bluegill gurgler let them extend out the side like a bug. Pic #2
6. Tie in a double legged weed guard slightly behind the hook eye. Depending on the size of the fly use 20 to 30 pound hard mason.
7. Make an angled cut at one end of the foam to create a point. Pic #3
8. Lay the foam in with the solid part right where the thread is tied off.
9. Tie the foam down in segments, working toward the back. Pic #4
10. Tie in Estaz Grande, palmering it forward to the weed guard. Tie it off and give it a haircut on top. Material sticking down is okay. Pic. #5
11. Fold the foam forward and tie it off right in front of the weed guard
12. Pin the excess foam back (Russ uses a pipe cleaner to hold the foam out of the way) and build up thread under it so that the lip sits at an angle away from the hook. Pic #6
13. Tie thread at the front of the lip of the foam so that the lips sets up high. Tie it off and apply head cement. Trim off the excess foam.

Go fishing.



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 - Alan Sewell
- Publicity - Roger Blanton
- Programs - BOD
- Project Healing Waters - Terry Kirkpatrick
- Raffles - Tom Hummel
- Shows & Special Events - Woody Miller
- Web Editor - Woody Miller

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Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) and Suncoast Fly Fishers (SFF) Dues

At initial membership dues are collected for both SFF and FFF. Since we (SFF) are a Charter member of FFF, all SFF members have to be members of FFF. After the initial dues you are responsible to directly pay yearly dues to FFF. The dues period of SFF and FFF may not coincide. We do not collect the yearly dues for the Federation (FFF). You will receive dues notification directly from FFF.

SFF dues are due in September. This is for the remaining months of 2009 and then through August of 2010. Members whose dues are delinquent for 2 or more months may lose their SFF membership. See Tom Gadacz for renewal forms.

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 Grasset, Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Tampa Bay 941-923-7799

Capt. Pete Greenan, Boca Grande, Everglades 941-923-6095

Capt. Paul Hawkins, Tampa Bay 727-560-6762

Capt. Ray Markham Sarasota and Tampa Bay 941-723-2655



Capt. Russ Shirley, Tampa Bay 727-343-1957

Capt. Wayne Simmons Tampa Bay Area 727-204-4188

Capt. Steve Soult, Nature Coast Area 352-686-0853

Jim Swann - fresh water 352-567-6029

Russ Hampton
Saltwater Synthetics



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SFF Photo Gallery - Everglades April 2010



Here are a few more pictures from April's Everglades trip sent to us by Mark Hays. Top left: Annie Hays hooks another Glades bluegill. Top right: Annie shows off her prize. Middle left: Annie with another really fine Glades bream. Bottom right: John and Mark Craig caught during an uncusomary break in the fish catching. Photos — Mark Hays

SFF Photo Gallery – Some Random Pictures



Top Left: Tom Gadacz with a beautiful rainbow caught while float tubing on his recent Colorado trip. Top right: Tom with a typical Colorado cutbow (a natural occurring cross between cousins rainbow and cutthroat trout). Gadacz photos. Middle left: Soon to be SFF member Bruce Carlton on last month's Hillsborough River outing. Mark Hays photo. Bottom left: A nice mess of bluegills from a recent trip with Paul Sequira and Ken Doty on the Hillsborough River. Ken Doty photo. Bottom right: Julia shows off a nice mackerel she caught on grand dad Ken's boat a few weeks ago. Ken Hofmeister photo.

SUNCOAST FLY FISHERS

Club Officers

President: Tom Gadacz 727-360-8030

Vice President: Woody Miller 727-560-6086

Secretary: Ken Hofmeister

Treasurer: Joe Dail

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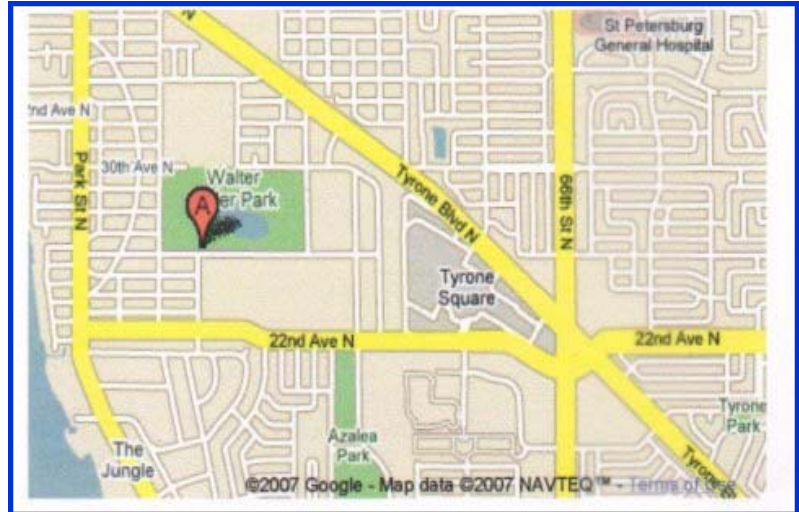
Roger Blanton - Hugh Copeland

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Alan Sewell - Tiger Vertregt

“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: June 17, 2010

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. Paul Hawkins Tampa Bay red fishing

Fly Tyer - Alan Sewell

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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

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